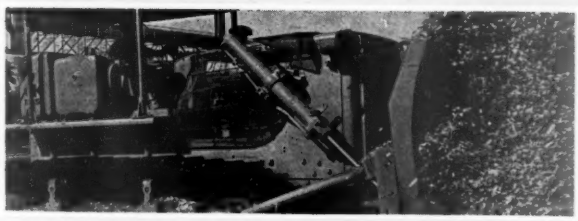
Trade and Industry

Papua New Guinea

Trade opportunities



How ECGD helps companies expand through exporting.

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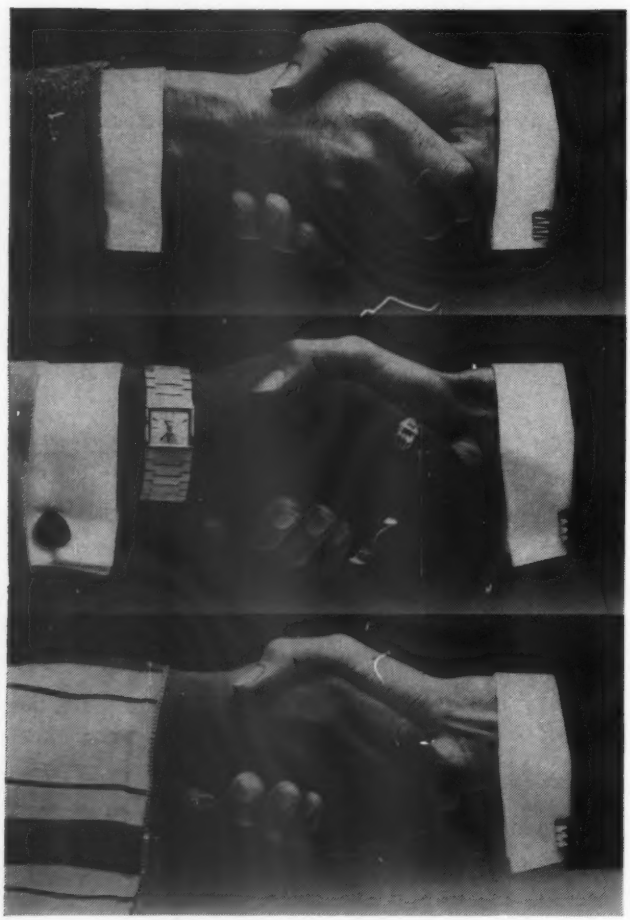

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ECGD

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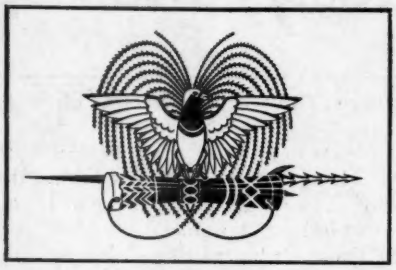
ACTION NOW: Contact the Information Officer, Export Credits Guarantee Department, quoting reference TIN, at Glasgow, Belfast, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Cambridge, Bristol, London West End, Croydon or Tottenham Regional Offices or Miss Butler, Information Section, TIN, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel: 01-606 6699 ext 258).

Trade and Industry

6 February 1975

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



Glowing opportunities for British business in Papua New Guinea are reported in a special article. Pictures on the front cover show Michael Somare, Chief Minister, signing a renegotiation agreement with Bougainville Copper Ltd. Heavy equipment at the company's Tanguna mine is seen in the middle picture. The bottom picture shows woodchips being moved at the New Jant Mill, Madang.

Trade and Industry

Incorporating the Board of Trade Journal

Volume 18. No. 6.

Pages 273 to 344. 6 February 1975.

Price 15p. Net subscription post inclusive, £11.44

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Advertisements: T. G. Scott & Son Ltd., 1 Clement's Inn, London WC2A 2ED. Tel: 01-242 6264 or 01-405 4743.

Subscriptions: HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1. 01-928 6977 ext. 472

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Home News

Tony Benn introduces the Industry Bill 274
Proposals for establishment of Scottish Development Agency 277
Welsh Development Agency proposed 278
Jobs preserved by Steel Closure Review 278
'Finance and the Small Firm' exhibition for Cardiff 279
Industrial development in Wales 279
Public expenditure to 1978–79 280
Lord Beswick meets Honeywell directors 280
Changes in Department of Industry Regions 280
Imperial Typewriters – consultants to be appointed 281
Clearance of merger proposals 281
Sale of wine in specified quantities 281
First experiments with flexible hours reviewed 283
Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right' 283
Shirley Williams speaks on effects of inflation and EEC membership on UK prices 284
Michael Young to chair National Consumers' Council 285
Restrictions on night jet movements at Heathrow and Gatwick this summer 287
Energy Minister calls on industry to appoint energy managers 287
Inquiry into loss of trawler 'Morena' 287

Britain

Good advice at the right time 290

Technology News

EEC entry increases Laboratory's tasks 292
Systems reliability course 292
Britain's tin and talc resources 293
Fluid flow forum 293
Designer's guide to fracture mechanics 293
Government aid for large sidewall hovercraft development 294
Support for petroleum engineering at Heriot-Watt 294

Government Sales

295

Parliament

296

British Overseas Trade Board

Papua New Guinea – growing opportunities for British business 310

Exhibitions and Fairs

Restaurant and bar refurbishing highlighted at Amsterdam event 314
Finnish Minister opens Helsinki medical congress 314
Good demand for quality carpets noted at Californian trade show 315

Trade Information

New trade agreements with Iran 316
ECGD News:
First cardboard manufacturing plant for the Philippines 317
Sugar factory for Indonesia 317
First general line of credit for Kenya 317
West India Committee missions reports 317
Portugal: £3m line of credit 317
Notices to Importers:
No. 1478: Community surveillance of certain goods 318
Applications for temporary exemption from import duty 318
Supplementary guidance for British firms in South Africa 319

Tariff and Trade Notices

Australia 327, Austria 323, Belgium 324, Bolivia 331, Canada 330, Finland 323, Gilbert and Ellice Islands 330, Israel 324, Jamaica 330, Malaysia 326, Malta 324, Netherlands 324, New Zealand 329, Peru 331, Portugal 323, St Lucia 330, Saudi Arabia 325, South Africa 325, Spain 323, Switzerland 324, United States 330, Zambia 325

European Community

Department of Industry consultations with EEC Commission 332
1975 Tariff quota for high carbon ferro-chrome 332
Temporary suspension of the Common Customs Tariff of the EEC 333

New EC Legislation

Common Agricultural Policy. Harmonisation of Legislation. Imports from non-member states. Commercial Policy. EEC/Argentine Agreement 333

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators 335
Activity in the chemicals industry 336
Retail sales in December 339
Hire purchase and other instalment credit buiness in December 1974 340
Business Monitor 341
Cinema admissions and takings in November 1974 341
Registrations of British, Community and foreign films 341
Film registrations in 1974 342
Volume of insurance business 342
Index to statistics 343

Advertising in 'Trade and Industry'

All advertising in *Trade and Industry* is now handled by T. G. Scott & Son Limited of 1 Clement's Inn, London WC2A 2ED (tel: 01-242 6242 and 01-405 4743), and not by Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

Trade and Industry continues to be published for the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection by Her Majesty's Stationery Office and all existing contracts and agreements will continue unchanged.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office will continue to handle all circulation and distribution matters, and subscription inquiries and queries should continue to be addressed to them.

Home News

Tony Benn introduces the Industry Bill

The Industry Bill, establishing the National Enterprise Board, was published on 31 January. Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, made the following statement following the publication of the new Bill:

'This Industry Bill seeks to re-define our national interests in a way that will make sense to *all* those who work in British industry; by helping to re-equip it during the hard years that lie ahead; by fundamentally changing relationships at work so that everyone can know the true position in the firms in which they work and join in making the key decisions in those firms thus giving us the greater confidence we need to understand and then overcome our deep-seated industrial problems.

'The Bill re-defines the obligations and powers of Government, Management and the Unions, who are all partners in British industry.

'In the future, workers, on the basis of information disclosed to them by management and Government, will come to play an equal part with management in the planning of their own firms.

'Our biggest companies, whose decisions, taken together, directly affect millions of workers and determine the future of the British economy, will be asked to discuss and agree with Government the broad outline of their forward plans; in return Government will progressively disclose more of its own forward thinking.

'The Government itself will become a major investor in manufacturing industry. Massive financial resources will be available. Parliament has already provided a fund in the Industry Act 1972 for the support of employment in assisted areas, without any statutory limit. £550 million was also authorised in that Act to promote the development and modernisation of our industry throughout the country. There will also be substantial sums allocated to the proposed Scottish and Welsh Development Agencies to back local projects and develop their own infrastructure. And now this Bill provides £1 billion (£1 thousand million) extra for direct investment in industry through the National Enterprise Board. In all, £2 billion or more will be available for selective investment, for selective assistance to manufacturing industry, and for the development of the English regions, Scotland and Wales.

'These reforms of British industry – the most fundamental since the War – are designed to check, and then to reverse the thirty year decline of our manufacturing industry which explains Britain's economic weakness. It is a long-term strategy for industry to allow the British people to rebuild our own industry upon which our future depends.'

This Bill establishes a statutory public corporation, to be called the National Enterprise Board. The purpose for which the Board's functions may be exercised are assisting the economy, promoting industrial efficiency and international competitiveness, and providing, maintaining, or safeguarding employment. Its functions will be to establish new industrial enterprises or assist existing enterprises, promote reorganisation within industry, extend public ownership into profitable areas of manufacturing industry, promote industrial democracy in its subsidiaries and administer shareholdings already in public ownership. The Bill also permits the Secretary of State to direct the Board to exercise his powers under the Industry Act 1972 to give selective financial assistance to industry.

The Bill gives the Secretary of State, if there is a serious and immediate probability that control over an important manufacturing undertaking will pass to a person resident outside the United Kingdom and the transfer would be contrary to the national interest, power to prohibit the transfer or to acquire the undertaking.

It authorises the Secretary of State, where he enters into a Planning Agreement, to maintain at the level then applicable the rates of regional development grant for capital expenditure identified in the Agreement and to provide financial assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 for projects so identified notwithstanding subsequent variations in development areas and the rates generally applicable.

It amends and extends the powers to give selective financial assistance to industry, and those relating to construction credits for ships and offshore installations, under the Industry Act 1972. It also amends the limits prescribed in Section 4(2) of the Development of Inventions Act 1967.

It provides for manufacturing undertakings to be required to provide information about specified activities to the appropriate Minister. The information is also to be provided to independent trade unions recognised by the undertaking unless the Minister decides this would be contrary to national interests or contrary to statute or an independent committee decide that it would seriously harm the undertaking, or a breach of confidence.

Clause 1 establishes the National Enterprise Board and provides for the appointment of a Chairman and members by the Secretary of State. It gives effect to the financial and administrative provisions relating to the Board contained in Schedules 1 and 2 to the Bill.

Clause 2 sets out the functions and powers of the Board. The purposes for which the functions may be exercised are assisting the economy, promoting industrial efficiency and international competitiveness, or providing, maintaining, or safeguarding employment in the United Kingdom. The Board's functions are to establish, develop or maintain or to promote or assist the establishment or development or maintenance of any industrial enterprise, or the reorganisation or development of an industry, to extend public ownership into profitable areas of manufacturing industry, to promote industrial democracy in undertakings controlled by it, and to hold and manage securities in public ownership. The Board may do anything necessary for performing its functions.

Clause 3 provides that the Secretary of State may, after con-

sultation with the Board, direct the Board to exercise on his behalf his powers under Section 7 or 8 of the Industry Act 1972. The Board's annual report shall set out any directions given during the year. If the Board acquire property, give grants, make loans or give guarantees in pursuit of such a direction the Secretary of State is to make a corresponding payment, loan or guarantee to the Board.

Clause 4 provides that nothing in this Act or any other enactment shall prevent the transfer to the Board of any securities or other property in public ownership.

Clause 5 requires the Secretary of State to determine the financial duties of the Board. Different determinations may be made for different assets and activities of the Board, but the Secretary of State and the Treasury must satisfy themselves that, taken together, the duties are likely to result in an adequate return on the capital employed by the Board.

Clause 6 gives the Secretary of State power, after consulting the Board, to give general or specific directions to the Board.

Clause 7 sets financial limits for the Board. There is to be a limit of £700 million on the aggregate of the external borrowing of the Board and their wholly owned subsidiaries, sums paid by the Treasury in fulfilling guarantees on borrowing by the Board, the public dividend capital of the Board, and the principal of loans guaranteed by the Board. Sums expended or guarantees given under *Clause 3* of the Bill, capital debt arising from the acquisition of property already held for the benefit of the Crown and sums borrowed by wholly owned subsidiaries before they became subsidiaries of the Board are excluded. The limit may be increased by order to not more than £1,000 million.

Clause 8 contains restrictions on the Board's powers to acquire share capital of bodies corporate. The Board is not, without the consent of the Secretary of State:

a to acquire shares in a company if this would give the Board control of 30 per cent or more of the voting rights, or

b to invest more than £10 million in the shares of one company.

The first of these provisions does not apply to shares with restricted voting rights.

Clause 9 provides that the powers to make prohibition and vesting orders conferred on the Secretary of State by the following clauses are to relate to the transfer of control over important manufacturing undertakings to persons not resident in the United Kingdom.

Clause 10 empowers the Secretary of State, if he considers that an important manufacturing undertaking is seriously and immediately threatened with a transfer of control which would be contrary to the interests of the United Kingdom or of any substantial part of it, to make a prohibition order prohibiting actions which would effect or lead to the transfer of control. The Secretary of State may also make a vesting order, with the approval of the Treasury, vesting the capital or assets of the undertaking in himself or in the National Enterprise Board as an alternative to a prohibition order. A vesting order may also be laid before Parliament at any time during the three months after a prohibition order has been made or after the Secretary of State has learned of the transfer of control. A vesting order may only be made if the Secretary of State is satisfied that it is necessary in the national interest to make the order and that that interest cannot, or cannot appropriately, be protected in any other way. A prohibition order will cease to have effect unless approved within 28 days of making by an affirmative resolution of each House of Parliament, and a vesting order cannot be made unless it is so approved in draft.

Clause 11 contains provisions as to the content of vesting orders. Such orders may deal with rights, liabilities or encumbrances over the capital or assets acquired by virtue of the order, and may safeguard such capital or assets.

Clause 12 defines the circumstances in which prohibition orders can apply outside the United Kingdom, and those in which a body corporate is to be treated as resident in the United Kingdom.

Clause 13 sets out the arrangements for compensation for the acquisition of capital or assets under a vesting order. It provides that a vesting order shall not be made unless an order under this clause (a compensation order) has been laid before Parliament. A compensation order must specify the persons or the classes of person who will receive compensation and the form in which it will be paid and must make provision for interest to be paid on compensation between vesting and the payment of compensation. The order may provide for arbitration. A compensation order will be subject to special Parliamentary procedure, defined in the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Acts 1945 and 1965, but special provision is made to ensure that a compensation Order, once laid, cannot be withdrawn.

Clause 14 allows the Secretary of State to ensure in connection with a Planning Agreement, as defined in subsection (2), that notwithstanding subsequent changes in the rate of grant or the scope of development areas, approved capital expenditure incurred within a specified period on defined projects will receive regional development grant under Section 1 of the Industry Act 1972 at rates not lower than those applying when the Agreement was concluded, and that financial assistance under Part II of the Industry Act 1972 can be provided in the manner then envisaged.

Clause 15 amends Sections 7 and 8 of the Industry Act 1972. It removes the requirement that assistance under these sections is only to be given by means of the acquisition of loan or share capital where the Secretary of State is satisfied that it cannot appropriately be given in any other way. It also removes the condition that the powers under Section 8 may only be exercised where assistance can only appropriately be provided by the Secretary of State. It removes the prohibition on the Secretary of State acquiring under Section 8 more than half the equity share capital of any company and removes the time limit of 31 December 1977 on the powers given by Section 8. It also removes the requirement under both sections that the Secretary of State should dispose of any shares or stock as soon as reasonably practicable.

Clauses 16 to *18* amend Section 10 of the Industry Act 1972 which provides the legislative authority for the Home Credit Scheme for Shipbuilding.

The limit of the liabilities which the Secretary of State may assume under the Scheme is increased from £1,000 million to £1,400 million and the figure to which that limit can be increased by statutory instrument is also increased from £1,400 million to £1,800 million (*Clause 16*). The benefit of a guarantee given under the Scheme may be transferred from one company to another in the same group (*Clause 17*). Provision is made for the Secretary of State to make grants to supplement the interest received by persons who have made loans to United Kingdom ship-owners under the Scheme (*Clause 18*).

Clause 19 amends Section 4 of the Development of Inventions Act 1967. It relaxes the requirements as to approval by the Secretary of State in relation to activities of the National Research Development Corporation by increasing the limit under which that approval is not required from £1,000 to £20,000 or to such other figure as may be fixed by order.

Clause 20 provides for persons to be made subject by statutory instrument to the provisions of *Clauses 21* to *23* of the Bill which relate to the disclosure of information. A person may be designated if he or a subsidiary of his appears to the relevant Minister to carry on an undertaking in the United Kingdom which contributes significantly to a sector of manufacturing industry important to the economy of the United Kingdom or

of any substantial part of it. The Order will be subject to negative resolution.

Clause 21 empowers the Minister to require information from persons designated under *Clause 20*, in respect of the present and future activities of their United Kingdom manufacturing undertakings. The matters about which information may be required are set out in subsection (3).

Clause 22 places a duty upon the Minister to require the person providing information to furnish that information to relevant trade unions unless the Minister considers this would be contrary to the national interest or in breach of a statute. In considering whether the national interest is adversely affected, the Minister is to give the person required to provide information and the relevant trade unions an opportunity of making representations.

Clause 23 gives a person required under *Clause 22* to furnish information to relevant trade unions the right to apply for a direction releasing him from this obligation, on the grounds that the release of the information would be a breach of confidence, or seriously prejudicial to the undertaking's interests. One or more committees are to be either established or directed by the Secretary of State to hear such applications. When a person applies to a committee, he must give notice to the relevant trade unions and the committee must give an opportunity to both parties to make representations.

Clause 24 provides for the confidentiality of information given to a Minister under *Clause 21* but not furnished to a trade union under *Clause 22*.

Clauses 25 to *30* contain supplementary provisions in relation to expenses incurred under or by virtue of the Bill (*Clause 25*), offences and enforcement of prohibition orders (such orders are not subject to criminal sanctions but are enforceable by civil proceedings) (*Clause 26*), service of documents (*Clause 27*), interpretation (*Clause 28*), orders (*Clause 29*) and citation, application to Northern Ireland and commencement (*Clause 30*).

Schedule 1 contains detailed provisions as to the constitution, remuneration and proceedings of the National Enterprise Board.

Schedule 2 contains financial and administrative provisions relating to the Board. It sets out the Board's borrowing powers, provides for Government lending to the Board, for guarantees on the Board's borrowing, and for the Board's public dividend capital and other capital debt. There is also provision for accounts and audit, and the Board's annual report.

Financial effects of the Bill

Clause 7 provides that there will be a financial limit of £700 million on finance for the National Enterprise Board except for expenditure incurred when they are acting in response to a direction under *Clause 3*. The limit of £700 million is subject to increase by statutory instrument to £1,000 million. It is very difficult to forecast how rapidly the Board will draw on these financial resources since this will be very greatly influenced by the needs of industry for investment finance. Sums provided to the Board in consequence of a direction under *Clause 3* will not be additions to public expenditure as a consequence of this Bill since they would otherwise have been expended as financial assistance for industry directly by the Secretary of State. Sums provided to enable the Board to exercise the Secretary of State's powers under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 will count against the overall financial limits applying to that section.

The powers conferred by *Clauses 9* to *11* are essentially reserve powers to be used only when other measures are not appropriate, and since they could only be used in response to a probable acquisition of control over a United Kingdom undertaking by a person not resident in the United Kingdom, the circumstances which could lead to their being exercised are outside the Government's control. No estimate can therefore be made of their public expenditure implications.

No power to increase expenditure will be conferred by *Clause 14* unless there is a reduction in the rates of regional development grant currently payable. The Government is not at present considering any such reduction.

Of the amendments which *Clause 15* makes to the Industry Act 1972, those concerned with Section 7 of that Act are unlikely to make any significant change in the rate of expenditure. Those relating to Section 8 of that Act remove a limitation on the exercise of the powers under that section which experience suggests has inhibited companies from making proposals for assistance. It is not, however, possible to forecast the effect which this will have on expenditure. The limits on expenditure under Section 8 remain unaltered.

The only increase in public expenditure forecast as a result of the provisions relating to shipbuilding credits is for the grants provided for in *Clause 18*. It is estimated that a total of £4 million will be paid in the two years 1975-76 and 1976-77.

Expenditure in exercise of the information disclosure powers in *Clauses 20* to *23* will effectively be limited to the costs of staff included within the manpower estimates set out in the following paragraph.

Effects of the Bill on Public Service Manpower

The increase in staff as a result of this Bill is estimated to be of the order of 250, almost entirely in connection with the administration of the system of Planning Agreements and to exercise the information disclosure provisions. This total is likely to be reached progressively over a period of three to five years.

Two important South American visitors – a city governor and a state governor-elect – are seen during recent visits to Britain. Left: Dr. Diego Arria, Governor of Caracas, Venezuela, pictured at 10 Downing Street with the Prime Minister, Mr. Wilson, whom he visited for informal talks. Dr. Arria was on a six-day visit to Britain, the highlight of which was the signing of an £11 million contract with British Leyland for 400 'National' single-deck buses for the City of Caracas. Right: Dr. Aloysio da Costa Chaves, Governor-elect of the State of Pará, Brazil, talking with Mr. R. W. Wright, deputy chairman and deputy chief executive of the Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation, during discussions at the RTZ headquarters in London. Dr. Chaves was on a visit to Britain as a guest of the British Government. Among places visited were the Confederation of British Industry, the Department of Trade and the RTZ aluminium smelter complex in North Wales.

Proposals for establishment of Scottish Development Agency

Plans for the establishment of the Scottish Development Agency were outlined by William Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland on 31 January. The SDA will have wide new powers to promote the creation of jobs and the development of industry, and to create an environment favourable to economic development.

The Agency, which will be responsible to the Secretary of State for Scotland, will have new funds at its disposal to mount an accelerated attack on Scotland's major problems of redevelopment. Over five years, it is expected to spend about £200 million. It will:

- directly invest in industry and participate in commercial ventures to create employment and strengthen Scotland's industrial structure;
- take over and double the programme of Government factory building in Scotland;
- assume responsibility for the derelict land clearance programme in Scotland, which will also be doubled;
- undertake key schemes of major environmental redevelopment in partnership with local authorities.

Industrial support and development

The SDA will operate its industrial investment and enterprise functions directly to create employment and to strengthen the Scottish economy. It will be able to provide loans for industry and take shareholdings; set up new and joint commercial ventures; provide managerial and financial advice; promote growth and modernisation; and (in concert with existing development bodies) attract new industry to Scotland.

The Agency's work will be backed by the Secretary of State's new powers to give financial assistance to Scottish industry. This partnership will be able to pursue the policy best suited to build a new and durable Scottish industrial structure. The Agency will operate independently of the National Enterprise Board. The Board will have powers to operate in Scotland in discharging the functions set out in the White Paper on the Regeneration of British Industry particularly where this affects a firm operating on both sides of the Border. In such cases, it will consult the Agency fully about its operations in or affecting Scotland.

The Agency will take over the responsibility for planning, developing and managing Government industrial estates in Scotland, incorporating within its structure the resources of the Scottish Industrial Estates Corporation. In addition to providing advance and purpose-built factory space to meet the needs of new and expanding industries it will play a new role in rehousing existing industry from inadequate premises.

The proposals envisage the Agency assuming complete financial and operational responsibility for the Scottish programme of derelict land clearance, a vitally important element in the improvement of the industrial environment. It will handle the planning and execution of schemes in close co-operation with local authorities, who will be relieved of the contributions they at present have to make under the 85 per cent grant arrangements. Local authorities will continue to exercise statutory planning functions and will play an important part in identifying areas of treatment and planning their future use, while the Agency will bring increased funds and technical resources to bear on the problem.

The Agency will have wide and flexible powers to create the environmental conditions which will foster economic growth and recovery. In particular it will be able to finance and undertake major tasks of redevelopment in older industrial communities, where renewal will go hand-in-hand with efforts to restructure and strengthen the economic base. In this role, the Agency will work closely with the new local authorities.

Constitution and area of operation

The Agency will be a statutory body responsible to the Secretary of State for Scotland. It will have a chairman and board appointed by him and a strong staff structure headed by a full-time Chief Executive. The Agency's remit will extend to the whole of Scotland and it will have wide-ranging and flexible powers enabling its resources to be brought to bear on special development problems wherever and however they arise. In the Highlands and Islands, however, it is not intended that the Agency should replace the Highlands and Islands Development Board, whose functions and responsibilities are in some respects similar to the Agency's own; it is intended to make arrangements for the closest possible co-ordination between the two bodies. The Agency is expected to give particular attention both in industrial development and environmental recovery to the older industrial areas of West Central Scotland where the most pressing problems exist, but it will be alive to the needs of all Scotland.

The Government's consultative document will provide the basis for discussion with relevant bodies and organisations, including the new local authorities, about the role and operating arrangements of the Agency. It is being widely circulated for comment. Copies have been issued to all the new local authorities, and to other bodies with responsibilities for economic development, including the Scottish Trades Union Congress, the Scottish Council of the Confederation of British Industry, the Scottish Council (Development and Industry), the Highlands and Islands Development Board, and the New Town Corporations.

Views and comments are being sought by the end of February. This will pave the way for the introduction of legislation as soon thereafter as possible.

Eight miles of aluminium conductor made in 20 minutes

Thousands of kilometres of aluminium conductor for Europe and the Middle East are being produced on a new rod mill just completed at Alcan Booth Extrusions Ltd., Banbury. This coil weighs 1,700 kg., is eight miles long and took 20 minutes to manufacture. The mill has an annual capacity of 30,000 tonnes and is now working on a £400,000 order for conductor to be processed into a 426 km. underground neutral earth cable for Kuwait.

Welsh Development Agency proposed

A consultation paper about the role and operating arrangements of the proposed Welsh Development Agency has been prepared.

It is proposed that the Agency will be a statutory body responsible to the Secretary of State for Wales, who will direct its policy. The Secretary of State will appoint a chairman, a board and a chief executive, who would be a member of the board and responsible for the day to day running of the Agency. The Agency would have a heavy executive and managerial load and would need to have a strong staff structure below board level.

The main objective of the Agency will be to accelerate the economic and industrial development of Wales and to improve the environment in a way consistent with that objective. The Agency's remit will extend throughout the whole of Wales.

The Agency will have a series of interlocking functions. First, it will have the major part to play in ensuring that attractive industrial sites and factory space are available for the needs of existing, expanding and new industry. The Agency will take over the responsibilities of the existing Welsh Industrial Estates Corporation (WIEC). The Agency will therefore have the task of planning, developing, maintaining and managing Government-owned industrial estates in Wales and of providing advance and purpose-built factories.

The Government intend that the Agency should have both an executive and a co-ordinating role in promoting Wales as a location for new industrial and commercial investment. As part of this the Agency will become responsible for the support which at present the Development Corporation for Wales receives from Exchequer sources.

The Agency will carry out the regional development functions in Wales of the proposed National Enterprise Board. In broad terms this will mean that the Agency will provide investment capital for Welsh industry; establish new and joint industrial ventures to create jobs in the interests of Welsh economic development as a whole; provide a managerial and financial advisory service to industry with a particular emphasis on small firms; and promote industrial growth and modernisation.

It will operate its industrial powers as an independent body responsible to the Secretary of State for Wales. The National Enterprise Board will have powers to operate in Wales in discharging the functions set out in the White Paper on the regeneration of British industry (Cmnd 5710), but it will consult the Agency fully about its operations in or affecting Wales.

To back up the Agency in its industrial support and development role the functions of regional selective assistance in Wales under Section 7 of the 1972 Industry Act are to be transferred to the Secretary of State for Wales with effect from 1 July 1975.

The Agency will be able to intervene to meet infrastructure requirements which can be related directly to exploration in the Celtic Sea and the subsequent exploitation of any resources discovered there. Parallel with this it will have special regard to creating an acceptable industrial environment.

The Agency will have a substantial role in mid and rural Wales. It will not be a body directed solely towards the problems of urban areas but will be expected from the start to make a contribution towards meeting the problems of rural development including needs related to industrial development in rural areas throughout the Principality.

On environment, the Agency will have an overall responsibility for derelict land clearance within the Principality. To this end the Government propose to transfer the existing responsibilities of the Derelict Land Unit of the Welsh Office to the Agency.

It is envisaged that resources will be made available to increase present and planned levels of work on land clearance. In addition, the rate of grant on local authority schemes falling within the responsibility of the Agency will be increased to 100 per cent. The Agency will meet the full cost of the schemes it undertakes directly.

The Agency will also be enabled to finance and undertake major redevelopment schemes to enhance the environment. Special attention will be given to areas involved in offshore oil development work.

The Agency will have powers, including compulsory purchase powers, to acquire and hold land. It aims to have an effective and close relationship with the proposed Wales Land Authority Council.

Jobs preserved by Steel Closure Review: Lord Beswick's interim report

An interim report by Lord Beswick, Minister of State, on the Department of Industry's Steel Closure Review was presented to Parliament on 4 February.

'This interim report on the Government's review of the BSC strategy will, I hope, be acceptable to those who work in the industry and to Parliament,' says Lord Beswick in the report. 'It represents the first results of the most extensive and open examination of the plans for a public corporation, requiring it to justify its proposals in detail in the light of its social responsibilities.

'The outcome, so far, preserves some 13,500 jobs for two to four years or more through deferments of proposed closures at East Moors, Hartlepool and Shotton, saves approximately 800 jobs permanently at Shotton and leaves the future of steel making at Shotton for further consideration.'

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'Finance and the Small Firm' exhibition for Cardiff

The Department of Industry in co-operation with the clearing banks and other financial institutions is holding a 'Finance and the Small Firm' trade show at the Small Firms Information Centre, 16 St. David's House, Wood Street, Cardiff from 25 to 28 February. It will be officially opened by Gregor MacKenzie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry.

The exhibition is designed to help firms use financial resources more efficiently by drawing attention to the wide variety of facilities available. Evening talks will be held on Liquidity and the Small Business, Finance and the Service Sector and Finance and the Manufacturer.

In the words of Philip Finnigan, Manager of the Centre, it is intended as a 'focus on finance' where small firms will be able to obtain advice and information from specialist financial institutions. 'Not only are the clearing banks well represented', he said, 'but also Government Departments, local authorities, merchant banks and independent factoring organisations The services of debt collecting agencies are also featured. So for the first time in Wales virtually every type of financial operation will be brought together under one roof. Information will be freely available about all the services on display to businessmen who wish to call at the Centre.'

The trade show will be open from 2 pm to 7 pm, 25 to 28 February. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings short talks will be given by experts on subjects such as Cash Flow, Efficient Retailing, Overcoming Liquidity Problems, Tax Aspects to be considered in Financing a Small Business and Sources of Capital. The talks will be followed by a question and answer session. There is no charge for admission but to avoid disappointment visitors to the seminars should book in advance.

The following organisations are exhibiting: Arbuthnot & Co. Ltd., Alex Lawrie Factors Ltd., Barclays Bank Ltd./Business Advisory Service, Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas, Department of Industry (Industrial Development Unit), Distributive Industry Training Board, H. & H. Factors Ltd., Hotel & Catering Industry Training Board, Industrial & Commercial Finance Corporation Ltd., Industrial Bank of Scotland Ltd., Institute of Credit Management, Lloyds Bank Ltd./Lloyds & Scottish Ltd., Mid-Glamorgan County Council, Midland Bank Ltd./Griffin Factors Ltd., M. J. H. Nightingale Ltd., National Research Development Corporation, National Westminster Bank Ltd./Credit Factoring Ltd., Small Business Capital Fund Ltd., South Glamorgan County Council, Slater Walker Finance Ltd., Williams & Glyn's Bank Ltd.

Arrangements are being made for similar exhibitions to be held in other cities.

Further information can be obtained from Philip Finnigan, Small Firms Information Centre, Cardiff. Tel. (0222) 396116.

Industrial development in Wales

Six new contracts – two for advance factories and four extensions to existing factories – have been placed by the Welsh Industrial Estates Corporation.

The Corporation's Architects Department designed both the advance factories – one at Maesteg and one at Llandrindod Wells. The Maesteg factory of 929 m.² (10,000 sq. ft.) is the fifth to be built in this area. Construction in advance of demand has started and the premises should be ready my mid-summer. The Llandrindod Wells factory – also 929 m.² – is the second advance factory in this area. Work has started and it should be ready by the late summer. Quantity surveyors for both these projects are E. C. Harris and Partners. The building contractors for the Maesteg factory are Western Building Co. (Bridgend) Ltd. and for the Llandrindod Wells factory are J. Harper and Sons (Leominster) Ltd.

Work started recently on an extension to the Andrew Russell Ltd. factory at Blaenavon, Gwent. The area of this extension is 1,003 m.² (10,800 sq. ft.) and it is hoped the work will be completed in September, 1975.

Clothing and household textile products are manufactured at this factory and the company envisages employing about 50 additional people (10 male, 40 female).

Architects for this project are Colwyn Foulkes and Partners, Cardiff, quantity surveyors are G. A. Downie and Partners, Cardiff and the contractors are Norval Construction Ltd., Pontypool.

An extension of 2,907 m.² (31,290 sq. ft.) is being built at the T. I. Rollo Hardy Ltd. premises at Blaenrhondda. This is the second extension to the original advance factory where steel tubing and machines for tube making are produced. The Architects Department of the Welsh Industrial Estates Corporation are responsible for the design of this project. Quantity surveyors are E. C. Harris and Partners, Treforest, and the building contract was awarded to Wenvoe Construction Co. Ltd. of Cardiff. The extension should be completed by the end of 1975.

Work on an extension of 1,706 m.² (18,362 sq. ft.) was recently started to the premises of Brittain's Riegel Ltd., on the Wrexham Industrial Estate, Clwyd, North Wales.

The original factory was completed in July 1969. The extension, it is hoped, will be completed in September 1975, and the labour force will be increased by 37 people when in full production. The company manufactures industrial solvents and laminates. Architects are Colwyn Foulkes and Partners; quantity

Small Firms Information Centres

Centre	Telephone	Freefone area	Freefone	Telex
Birmingham	021-643 3344	West Midlands	4054	337919
Bristol	294546	South West	9910	449650
Cardiff	396116	Wales	1208	497515
Glasgow	041-248 6014	Scotland	846	779334
Leeds	445151	Yorks/Humberside	5361	557687
London	01-828 2384	London & South East	2079	917920
Luton	29215	Eastern	372	826115
Manchester	061-832 5282	North Western	6005	667952
Newcastle	25353	Northern	529	537429
Nottingham	49791	East Midlands	4062	377313

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surveyors are E. C. Harris and Partners, and the contractors are Watkin, Starbuck and Jones Ltd.

An extension of 2,235 m.² (24,057 sq. ft.) to the Engart Fans Ltd. factory on the Hirwaun Industrial Estate has begun. The company, which manufactures fans and air movement equipment, has been on the estate since late 1950s and this is their second extension. It should be ready for occupation by the autumn and an increase in the labour force of 90 males is anticipated. Architects are H. M. R. Burgess and Partners; quantity surveyors I. E. Symonds and Partners, and building contractors are Shepherd Construction Ltd.

Lord Beswick meets Honeywell directors

Lord Beswick met Mr. L. R. Prime, chairman, and Mr. J. S. McGregor, managing director of Honeywell Ltd. on 29 January.

They said that they fully recognised the importance of maintaining jobs in Scotland, and confirmed that it was their intention to maintain a large and viable manufacturing operation there. They also confirmed there was no plan to transfer elsewhere any of the product lines currently manufactured in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Price and Mr. McGregor were glad to inform the Minister that, following consultations with the unions concerned, all the redundancies which had occurred in the recent contraction in Honeywell's workforce in Scotland had been on a voluntary basis.

Changes in Department of Industry Regions

The 23 January issue of *Trade and Industry* (page 148) contained details of changes which have taken place to some of the areas covered by the Department of Industry's Regional Offices. It should be made clear that these changes do not affect the Department's Regional Development Grants Offices at Cardiff, Bootle, Billingham and Glasgow and the Investment Grants Office at Southend.

Public expenditure to 1978-79

The White Paper setting out the Governments public expenditure plans for the years 1974-75 to 1978-79 was published on 30 January (Command 5879, HMSO, price £1.45 net).

This is the first review of Public Expenditure published by this Government, and the sixth in the annual series. It sets out the Government's plans for spending by Central Government, by local authorities, and the capital expenditure of public corporations.

In carrying out this review the Government has had three main needs in mind:

First, the balance of payments deficit. A substantial existing deficit was greatly aggravated by the massive increase in oil prices. The increase in the price of oil since the autumn of 1973 together with the previous deficit has meant that our absorption of resources last year was about 6 per cent in excess of national output.

The White Paper states that by 1979 we can look forward to meeting most of our own oil needs from domestic sources. But we must aim to close the non-oil deficit as soon as possible and go on to achieve an overall balance taking account of the cost of servicing accumulated debt. This balance of payments claim on our resources affects the total amount of other expenditure which we can afford.

Second, the need to improve certain key social programmes. This has required additional spending on a number of programmes, notably social security, housing and subsidies. Over the period to 1979 price restraint subsidies to nationalised industries will be phased out and food subsidies reduced, but social security payments will be improved. There was a large uprating in 1974.

Third, the need to raise output. Only higher output can supply the resources for greater public and private consumption. As a nation, we have both to invest more and make better use of assets. The Government's expenditure plans in this field include additional investment in the nationalised industries; regional, industrial and agricultural support; manpower and training policies; and the further measures indicated in the White Paper on the Regeneration of British Industry (Cmnd. 5710).

Allocating the increased output

Part 1 of the White Paper sets public expenditure plans in the context of the whole economy. It shows, on different growth assumptions, how the increase in resources might be applied to the balance of payments, investment and consumption. Personal consumption is shown to grow at between 1.3 and 2.2 per cent per year, on average, depending on the growth of output, with publicly financed personal consumption rising faster than privately financed personal consumption (Table 1.1 lines 4a, b, c).

In all three illustrative cases the rate of increase of consumption would be significantly less than the growth rate of output, reflecting the need to put more resources into investment and the balance of payments.

Public expenditure itself will increase in demand terms by not more than 2¾ per cent, as foreshadowed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 12 November 1974 (Paragraph 58 and Table 3.3).

Direct and indirect public expenditure

Public expenditure consists of both direct expenditure on goods and services and also transfer payments and net lending to the private sector (indirect expenditure). Expenditure on goods and services (about £20,800 million in 1974-75) is mainly for health and personal social services, education, defence, nationalised industries' investment, housing, roads and transport and other environmental services. Of transfer payments and net lending of about £18,100 million in 1974-75, social security payments account for about £6,600 million. Industry and employment, including price restraint subsidies to nationalised industries, housing subsidies and loans, agricultural support and food subsidies, and overseas aid and payments to the European Economic Community altogether account for about a further £6,000 million.

Individual programmes

Part 2 of the White Paper includes chapters on individual programmes. In some cases the tables of figures are, for the first time, supplemented by diagrams to illustrate the major components of expenditure. The presentation continues to take account of suggestions made in the past by the Select Committee on Expenditure, including the provision of more non-financial information. The tables from the White Paper summarising public expenditure on goods and services and on transfer payments are as follows:

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

TABLE 1.2 Public expenditure on goods and services: investment and consumption 1973-74, 1974-75 and 1978-79. 1974 survey prices.

£ million

	1973-74	1974-75	1978-79
Defence and extrenal relations:			
1 Defence	3,588	3,520	3,805
2 Overseas services	158	171	174
Commerce and industry:			
3 Agriculture, fisheries and forestry	108	100	116
4 Trade, industry and employment	362	436	389
Nationalised industries:			
5 Nationalised industries' capital expenditure	1,854	2,075	2,499
Environmental services:			
6 Roads and transport	1,297	1,236	1,299
7 Housing	1,379	1,712	1,481
8 Other environmental services	1,493	1,384	1,570
9 Law, order and protective services	1,007	1,040	1,202
Social services:			
10 Education, libraries, science and arts	3,492	3,564	3,906
11 Health and personal social services	3,759	3,829	4,258
12 Social security	255	275	272
Other services:			
13 Other public services	445	476	470
14 Common services	479	494	636
15 Northern Ireland	461	535	593
Total*	20,157	20,847	22,671
Average annual percentage increase to end of period	2.4	2.1	

* Excluding any use of the contingency reserve, and before making the general deduction for shortfall referred to in paragraph 55 below.

TABLE 1.3 Public transfer payments: grants, subsidies, loans, interest 1973-74, 1974-75 and 1978-79. 1974 survey prices.

£ million

	1973-74	1974-75	1978-79
Defence and external relations:			
1 Defence	16	18	22
2 Overseas services	495	594	690
Commerce and industry			
3 Agriculture, fisheries and forestry	501	1,175	598
4 Trade, industry and employment	1,786	1,972	971
Nationalised industries:			
5 Nationalised industries' capital expenditure	13	37	−1
Environmental services			
6 Roads and transport	280	491	515
7 Housing	1,361	1,904	2,196
8 Other environmental services	29	37	41
9 Law, order and protective services	10	15	19
Social services:			
10 Education, libraries, science and arts	967	943	1,088
11 Health and personal social services	28	31	38
12 Social security	6,205	6,588	7,658
Other services:			
13 Other public services	29	28	21
14 Common services	—	—	—
15 Northern Ireland	385	484	440
Total programmes*	12,104	14,317	14,296
Debt interest	3,740	3,800	3,400
Total*	15,854	18,117	17,696
Average annual percentage increase to end of period (exluding debt interest and investment grants)	3.7	0.2	

* Excluding any use of the contingency reserve, and before making the general deduction for shortfall referred to in paragraph 55 below.

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Imperial Typewriters – consultants to be appointed

The Department of Industry has decided to appoint independent consultants to look into the possibilities of maintaining production and employment at the Imperial Typewriter factories at Hull and Leicester now threatened with closure by Litton Industries. The company has agreed to co-operate with the consultants who will work with and report to the workforce and the Department of Industry jointly.

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the proposed merger between Elf Union SA/VIP Petroleum Ltd. and Isherwood's Garages Ltd. (UK subsidiaries of Occidental Petroleum Corporation) to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act, 1973.

Sale of wine in specified quantities

Under the provisions of the Weights and Measures (Sale of Wine) Order 1974, wine, when sold on the premises on which it is to be consumed otherwise than prepacked in a securely closed bottle or in a drinking glass, must be sold by capacity measurement.

Parliament have recognised that this Order did not go as far as was desirable in the protection of the consumer and the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection are therefore consulting interested organisations with a view to improving the legislative steps already taken by specifying the quantities in which wine and British wine shall be sold for consumption on the premises of the seller.

The Department propose to make an Order to amend Part VI of Schedule 4 to the Weights and Measures Act, and to revoke the Weights and Measures (Sale of Wine) Order 1974, which would require that wine and British wine when sold for consumption on the premises shall be sold in the following specified quantities

i 25 cl 50 cl 75 cl or 1 litre; or
ii 10 fl oz or 20 fl oz.

It will also contain provision for bringing to the notice of the prospective buyer the quantities in which wine is offered for sale.

The Order will not apply to wine or British wine sold prepacked in a securely closed bottle, whether or not it is decanted at the request of the buyer before being served, nor to the sale of wine in the glass or other vessel from which it is intended to be drunk.

Any organisation which has not been consulted by the Department may obtain full information about the proposals from the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Standards Weights and Measures Division, Room 427, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN (Tel: 01-211 3895 or 3524).

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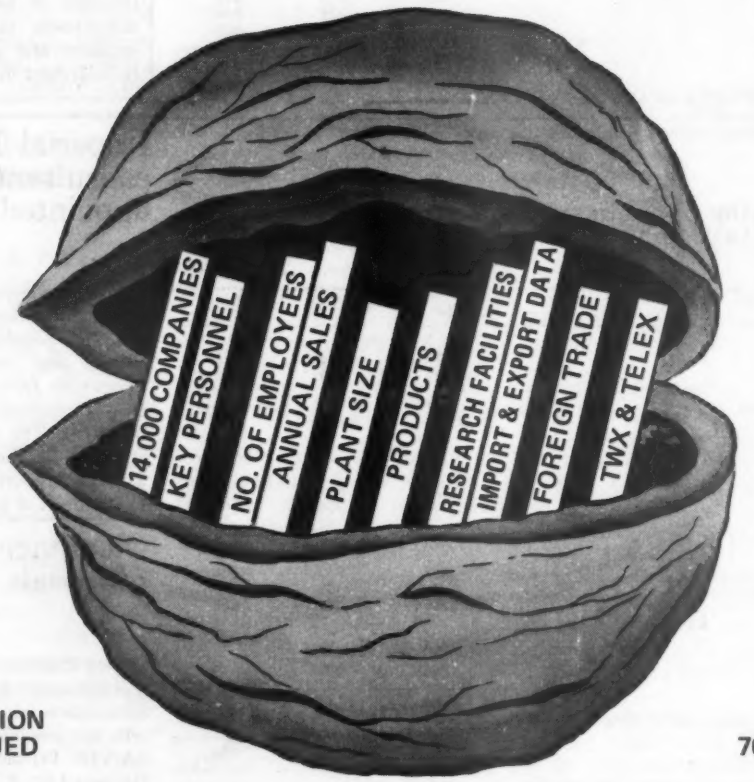

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First experiments with flexible hours reviewed

By the beginning of1974 about 500 organisations in Britain, covering some 100,000 employees were thought to have adopted flexible working agreements – sometime called 'flex-time'.

A study of the first experiments with flexible hours systems in this country, is published in the current issue of the *DE Gazette*. This shows that so far they have been adopted very widely in the insurance industry, by at least 15 local authorities and some civil service departments such as the Inland Revenue and the Department of Health and Social Security. The pharmaceutical, engineering, food, drink and tobacco industries also have firms who have adopted flexible hours.

Commissioned by the Department of Employment's Unit for Manpower Studies (UMS), the survey identified five main types of system – most of which provided for restrictions where the work load required.

UMS studied employees' reactions to these schemes. Although some workers took full advantage of the discretion they had been given, it was a common finding that a third to a half of all employees chose times which were quite close to their previous fixed ones – this may have been no more than a formalisation of what was already happening. There was a tendency to earn the right to leave earlier by shortening the lunch break – many workers don't seem to value a long lunch – and to amass credit where time could be carried over. But employees by no means always took advantage of the credits they had earned.

Six out of seven employees in the organisations surveyed said that flexible working had made a difference to their working hours and almost half varied their times from day to day. In general, the advantages which employees appreciated most widely were that flexible hours provided a better balance between working and private life, enabled them to avoid rush hour congestion and gave them a chance to finish a task before leaving work in the evening. Reductions in travelling time, the ability to save up for time off and flexibility over lunch breaks were also picked out.

The survey found that employers too, were generally satisfied with flexible systems and none of them had contemplated suggesting a return to fixed hours. Among the advantages, employers listed elimination of timekeeping losses, obviating the need for petty discipline, increased responsibility amongst staff and a better working climate.

The article concludes by expecting that the various systems of flexible working hours may well develop over a substantial sector of the economy.

The Department of Employment Gazette is published monthly, price 70p and is available from HMSO and Government bookshops in London, Belfast, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol or through booksellers. Annual subscription is £9.48 inclusive of postage.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
7 January 1975		
1,176,052	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Production of light-sensitive coatings for use in the manufacture of copying materials
1,199,062	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Spectrally sensitised photoconductive recording material
1,200,901	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Optically sensitised photoconductive recording material
1,203,051	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Improvements in or relating to photographic light-sensitive silver halide materials
1,237,192	Gevaert-Agfa NV	Information-recording processes and materials
1,086,210	The Raymond Corporation	Lift truck mast tilting arrangement
1,153,414	The Raymond Corporation	A lift-truck fork-carriage assembly
1,231,375	Nodet-Gougis	Improvements relating to seed sowing implements
1,242,226	John Henry Langridge	Valves and taps
1,251,901	Regie Nationale des Usines Renault	Improvements in rear-view mirrors for automotive vehicles
1,346,953	Chinoin Cyogyszer Es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara Rt.	Process for the preparation of substituted carbamates
17 January 1975		
1,079,677	Ilford Ltd.	Drying moisture-containing layers
1,219,494	Ilford Ltd.	Plant control system
1,254,345	Ilford Ltd.	Alkali-soluble colour couplers
1,285,236	Ilford Ltd.	Anti-static coating
1,290,447	Ilford Ltd.	Liquid toners
1,201,321	Coal Industry (Patents) Ltd.	Apparatus for measuring tension
1,243,722	Coal Industry (Patents) Ltd.	Gearbox
1,028,052	Smith Kline Corporation	Improvements in or relating to a crystalline alkaloid of mitragyna speciosa and compositions thereof
1,041,905	Smith Kline Corporation	Improvements in or relating to printing or discrete solid edible products
1,192,168	Hodogaya Kagaku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha	Dyeing
1,226,969	Samuel Alexis	Gaming devices
1,366,359	Medicot Muvek	Element for packaging articles
21 January 1975		
1,112,681	UCB	N-aminoalkyl-benzothiazacycloal kanones and cycloalkanes
1,112,972	UCB	Improvements in and relating to waterproofing fabrics
1,138,490	UCB	Process for the preparation of chlorocholine chloride
1,143,167	UCB	Derivatives of pyrimidine
1,190,135	UCB	Diphenylene derivatives
1,203,874	UCB	Process for the regeneration of alkanolamines
1,221,330	UCB	Self-extinguishing unsaturated polyesters
1,242,320	UCB	Process for the dehydration of maleic acid
1,260,428	UCB	Improvements in or relating to wiped film vertical evaporators
1,334,792	UCB	Aqueous dispersions of polyurethanes
1,336,492	UCB	Process for the manufacture of a paper substitute
1,192,602	Agfa-Gevaert	Process for preparing a planographic printing plate
1,198,122	Agfa-Gevaert	Process for preparing a planographic printing form
1,198,123	Agfa-Gevaert	Process for preparing a planographic printing master
1,226,954	Agfa-Gevaert	Silver complex diffusion transfer process
1,262,284	Agfa-Gevaert	Improvements relating to the reproduction of multicolour scenes and prints in multicolour television
1,282,303	Agfa-Gevaert	Improved light-sensitive material
1,301,657	Agfa-Gevaert	Photoconductive recording
1,112,819	British Steel Corporation	Nozzle and stopper assemblies for the teeming of liquid metal
1,119,495	British Steel Corporation	Nozzle and stopper assemblies for the teeming of liquid metal
1,258,390	Societa Italiana Resine SIR, SpA	Process for pigmenting thermosetting resins
1,271,776	Societa Italiana Resine SIR, SpA	Process for manufacturing chlorinated hydrocarbons by oxychlorination
1,272,037	Societa Italiana Resine SIR, SpA	Process for the manufacture of dichloroethane
1,278 010	Societa Italiana Resine SIR, SpA	Method of obtaining gel-free epoxy resins
1,280,738	Societa Italiana Resins SIR, SpA	Process for manufacturing oxychlorination catalysts
1,297,546	Societa Italiana Resins SIR, SpA	Stabilised polyoxymethylenes
1,096,520	Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen	Improvements in or relating to resilient stub-axle mounting arrangements for wheels
1,195,100	Helmut Bross	Writing instrument
1,211,106	Kennedy Van Saun Corporation	Improvements in method and apparatus for classifying finely-divided solids carried in a gas stream

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Shirley Williams speaks on effects of inflation and EEC membership on UK prices

'To survive – certainly to thrive – in the new economic era we live in, Britain must regain its capacity to initiate, adjust and enjoy change and development' Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection said in Birmingham on 28 January.

Addressing the annual banquet of the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Mrs. Williams examined the contribution that Government, both sides of industry and the nation as a whole could make towards solving some of the problems facing the country.

In the following extracts from her speech, Mrs. Williams dealt with inflation and with EEC membership.

Inflation

'I believe the battle against inflation must be fought on a wide front. The Price Commission pointed out in its last report the extent to which inflation now arises from domestic sources – sources under our own control. In 1974 food commodity prices rose by 7 per cent while industrial raw materials fell by 37 per cent. The effect of past increases in import prices on the cost of living in 1975 will be about 1 per cent or just over, assuming no further substantial rises in the next 12 months. Indeed, there are some grounds for believing that commodity prices will continue to ease, especially if the grain harvests this summer are good. The main wave of higher energy prices has already passed through into the retail price index. Increases in rents, taxes, nationalised industry prices and the relaxation of the Price Code may together account for a further 3 per cent. Nearly two-thirds of the inflationary pressures in the pipeline, however, are accounted for by increases in incomes.

'The sources of inflation outside our own control are no longer making the main impact on prices. Of those within our control, profit margins have fallen sharply in the last year – by 33 per cent for the largest companies – (Category 1) – between the 1st and 3rd quarters of 1974. These firms are now earning only 51 per cent of their reference levels – and those reference levels are based on the profits they made in the years up to 1972. There are still isolated cases of profiteering or of unfair pricing; but the great majority of firms are working on lower margins of profit than for many years past.

'On the prices side, abolition of price controls has been a widely heard theme among businessmen. But you will know that price controls have been operating for a long time on the Continent, and Continental business has not suffered. France, for example, has price controls and also rapid growth.

'In the recent Price Code review, the Government had to make a judgement as between its responsibilities for maintaining reasonable levels of employment and activity, and its responsibility for curbing inflation. The Price Code amendments and the budget relief on stock appreciation were based on the view that, unchanged, the Price Code and the incidence of taxation on inflated stock values would force us into a much more serious recession than we need undergo. In this judgement, we have the support of the NIESR, whose recent Review said:

> "In general, however, our analysis supports the position taken in the most recent Budget – namely that, in order to prevent a precipitate decline in investment and employment, companies needed relief on both the Price Code and taxation."

'Our Stage IV relaxations are quite significant; they are aimed at halting the squeeze on profits that was so marked from the summer of 1974, and giving investing firms an opportunity to build up margins. However, today it is the market rather than the Price Code that is the price determinant. As the Price Commission report suggests, the impact of the changes in the Price Code and the extent to which they can be reflected in prices will depend on competitive pressures.

'The cost pressures reflecting the end of the era of cheap energy are acute on everyone, not only industry. It would be a great pity if industry hid behind the existence of price controls and refrained from taking the opportunities offered by the New Price Code to invest and to reverse the erosion of profits.

'The overwhelming factor in inflation is now incomes – one man's pay rise is another man's price increase. The Social Contract, therefore is of central importance. I welcome Mr. Len Murray's recent reaffirmation of its significance, and of the need for wage settlements to represent past increases in the cost of living, not to anticipate future increases. But let us make no mistake about it. If trade unionists – and others – are to exercise restraint, even to the point of accepting no improvement in their standard of living, and no compensation for increases in tax, there must be a response to the other objects of the social contract. The Government has responded by protecting the position of pensioners and other vulnerable groups. We have taken steps to promote new jobs and new activity. I have indicated in this speech other ways in which we can minimise unemployment. But if the Social Contract is to be effective, the response must come not only from trade unionists, and from the Government, but from all sections of the community. Professional and business people are not excluded from the need for income restraint. This is not the right time for every section to try to maintain its relative position over everyone else, if not to improve it. Bluntly, the majority of us will have to take less – especially if we mean what we say about protecting the old, the ill, the very young who cannot fight for themselves, so that they may have more.

'The Social Contract, as a basis of co-operation, can also lead to better industrial relations and hence better productivity.

'I have found in my 10 years as a Member of Parliament just how rare it is to find ready and easy communication between management and shop-floor in British industry. I suspect that many strikes arise, nominally over wages, but actually because the workpeople do not know what is going on or why. The good record of industrial relations in a country like West Germany owes almost everything to the habit of consultation; consultation over investment, new working methods, redundancy, recruitment, training and all the rest. Sadly one often finds in Britain that there is virtually no communication at all. Management maintains its prerogative of making decisions, sometimes without even explaining them to those most affected. This gap of communication is made more acute by the continuing segregation on class lines of so much of British society: segregation in the schools, so that many of the children of professional and managerial parents are educated outside the State system: segregation in housing, as between Council estates and private estates; segregation in the workplace, so that staff and shop-floor in many firms have different conditions of work.

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, pictured in Bonn with Frau Katherina Focke, the Federal Republics' Secretary of State for Health, Family and Youth Affairs. Mrs. Williams urged the need for strengthening consumer representation in Brussels. She said she was pressing for a small secretariat for the consumer consultation committee, and for the consumer consultation committee, and for the committee to have direct access to the Commissioners. Frau Focke undertook to recommend Federal German support for both ideas. Mrs. Williams also met the Federal Minister of Finance, Herr Hans Apel, who gave her latest information about the Republic's situation.

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, with Michael Young, chairman of the new National Consumers' Council.

'The roots of our economic problems go deep into our social structure, and the social structure still imposes a colossal waste of talent.

EEC membership

'In the last five years, uncertainty about whether or not Britain would enter, and remain in, the European Economic Community, has overshadowed even the domestic market uncertainties. As the directors of one very large engineering firm put it to me, "How do we know on what basis to invest, how much to invest, or who our customers should be?". The same dilemma faces overseas investors, who do not know whether they are putting their money into part of the European Community, part of some future free trade area, or a meduim sized country on its own. The ending of this central uncertainty one way or the other will itself be of benefit to Britain's economy. Though as the Prime Minister has recently reaffirmed, membership of the Community on the right terms will be good for Britain and good for Europe. It is a decision that the British people will now make, I hope decisively enough to end the uncertainty once and for all.

'We are not yet at the end of the renegotiation process, and there are still important issues to settle, especially in regard to the Community budget and farm policy. The results of the renegotiation will be of the first importance in our people's final decision, and I am sure those who wish us well among the other eight members of the Community recognise that this is so.

'Among those matters on which substantial progress has been made are the association between the Community and the Commonwealth, and the position of Britain as an importer of food from abroad – indeed, the two are inter-related. The long-term agreement by the Community to guarantee access for 1.4 million tons of sugar from the developing countries of the Commonwealth is a significant move in assuring both *their* economic development and our *long*-term certainty of supply. Meanwhile in the short-term, we have been able to buy sugar through the EEC subsidy scheme far below the going world price. Imports of 500,000 tons have recently been authorised under these arrangements, and the majority of it will come to the UK. Sugar in the last 18 months has jumped more than sixfold in price, though it is now beginning to come down again. At current prices, we would be paying 40-45p for a 2 lb. bag of sugar, if we were forced to buy on the world market.

'In the field of dairy products, butter and cheese, we want to assure access for New Zealand. So far, we have been able to continue to buy a substantial part of our needs from her. Dairy product costs have been going up, and New Zealand herself has had to ask for higher prices. She does not, and indeed cannot, supply all our requirements, but we have been able to buy the balance from EEC countries below the price at which they export to the non-members of the EEC.

'Wheat and other grains are about a third cheaper in the EEC than in the world outside; the comparison cannot be exact, because the Community produces soft wheat, and a substantial part of Britain's imports is hard wheat, which has long been the customary wheat from which our standard loaves are made. We are using more soft wheat than a decade ago, and this has helped to keep down the price of our bread. The rise in world food prices, especially of grain, has been much greater than the rise in EEC prices over the past two years. In consequence, food prices are now, on balance, slightly lower for us now than they would have been if we were not members of the Community.

'But the truth of the matter is that in the last two years, cheap food has simply been unobtainable anywhere in the world. I myself do not believe food will ever again be as cheap, compared to other products, as it was a few years ago. Indeed, in a world where millions are starving, we need a policy of expanding agricultural production on a planned, long-term basis. A renegotiated common agricultural policy in Europe could make an important contribution to providing the basis for such an expansion – but at costs that must reflect consumer needs for reasonable prices as well as farmers' needs for adequate incomes. The EEC is either self-sufficient or nearly so, in most temperate food products, and that does give its members a reasonable guarantee of adequate supplies of food in the future. I think it is no secret that for a number of products we would like to see greater access for imports from third countries. The Minister of Agriculture is currently seeking the introduction of arrangements which would give beef producers a fair return by means of variable premiums while keeping to reasonable levels the prices which consumers have to pay, instead of relying solely on intervention buying with the inevitable build-up of stocks.

'I hope that in agriculture, as in industrial trade, the EEC will adopt an open-minded approach to third countries. I believe the British Government has already had a considerable influence on Community thinking about aid, trade and commercial agreements with the developing world. Indeed some of our best friends in the Commonwealth are now urging us to remain within it, including, for instance, the Prime Ministers of Australia and Canada, in recent speeches. Because for both the developed and even more so the developing commonwealth, Britain's membership is a passport of entry into the world's largest trading bloc.

'The decision will be made by the British people. On an issue of such importance to our future, and on which widely different opinions are held in all our main political parties, that is as it should be. I believe it is now incumbent on all of us to place the facts before our people, and to accept their verdict.'

Michael Young to chair National Consumers' Council

The Chairman of the new National Consumers' Council will be Michael Young. Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection announced the appointment in the House of Commons on 29 January. She also said:

'The Government has decided that the organisation described in the White Paper *National Consumers' Agency* (Cmnd 5726) would more appropriately be called the National Consumers' Council, since it does not have executive powers.'

Mrs. Williams added: 'The Council will have about 15 members, whom I shall appoint. Five of the appointments will be made from among candidates put forward by the following organisations, which I am inviting to suggest names for my consideration: the Consumers' Association, Co-operative Women's Guild, Housewife's Trust, National Consumers Protection Council, National Council of Social Service, National Council of Women of Great Britain, National Federation of Consumer Groups, National Federation of Women's Institutes, National Housewives' Association and National Union of Townswomen's Guilds.'

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The Areas for Expansion

Michael Young, who is 59, was former and first Chairman of the Consumers' Association, publishers of *Which?* magazine, and has been its President since 1965. As a sociologist and lawyer he was founder and has been Director of the Institute of Community Studies since 1953 and was the first Chairman of the Social Science Research Council.

Mr. Young founded the Advisory Centre for Education, of which he has been Chairman since 1959, and also the National Extension College which was set up in 1962 as a pilot project in multi-media education which led to the Open University. He is Chairman of the International Extension College, which has started a small chain of multi-media colleges in Africa.

Mr. Young's salary will be £4,000 p.a. on the basis of two days a week.

The way the Council will operate was described in the White Paper, which was published in September 1974. It will:

a make representations of the consumer view to central and local government, to the Director General of Fair Trading, to industry and to any other quarter where a consumer voice ought to be heeded. Examples of the subjects on which it will express a consumer view are: present and proposed legislation; advertising; local consumer advice services; metrication; and testing facilities;

b be available to be consulted by those, including the Government, seeking a consumer view on policies and proposals:

c represent the consumer on appropriate Government and other bodies, including international organisations;

d review the present arrangements for consumer representation in the nationalised industries.

The Council will not itself deal directly with individual consumers' problems. It will be a non-statutory body.

The new Council differs from the Consumer Council (appointed in 1963 following the report of the Molony Committee and wound up in 1971) in two main ways. The Government envisages that through the new Council the consumer will have a similar opportunity to be heard to those available to management and trade unionists through the TUC and CBI. Secondly, the publication of information for consumers formerly undertaken by the Consumer Council is now part of the functions of the Director General of Fair Trading.

Inquiry into loss of trawler 'Morena'

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping announced on 30 January he had ordered a preliminary inquiry to be held into the loss of the fishing vessel *Morena.*

Replying in the House of Commons to a question by Mr. Terence Higgins (Worthing) who asked what further information he had regarding the missing trawler *Morena,* Mr. Clinton Davis said:

'I much regret to have to inform the House that the search for the *Morena* was called off at dusk on 28 January and it must be assumed that the vessel and her crew of three, one of whom is British, have been lost. I understand that before starting her voyage the *Morena* had been purchased by a person understood to be a Danish citizen and it was therefore struck off the United Kingdom Register on 9 January 1975. Nonetheless, since witnesses to the circumstances of the disappearance may be found in the United Kingdom, I have ordered a statutory preliminary inquiry to be held under Section 464 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1894.

'I am sure the House will wish to join me in extending sympathy to the relatives and friends, both in this country and abroad, of those who must be presumed to have lost their lives.'

Mr. Clinton Davis was also answering a written Parliamentary Question from Mr. James Johnson (Kingston-upon-Hull).

Restrictions on night jet movements at Heathrow and Gatwick this summer

Mr. Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping has announced the restrictions to be applied to night jet movements at Heathrow and Gatwick from 1 April-31 October 1975.

In answer to a written Parliamentary Question from Mr. Neville Sandelson (Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington) on 30 January, Mr. Clinton Davis sadi:

'At Heathrow the permitted number of night jet movements in the period will be 2,600 by comparison with the limit of 3,300 imposed for the summer of 1974. The limit for Gatwick, as compared with 3,750 in 1974, will be 3,100; the overall limit at both airports includes a quota of 200 movements reserved for noise-certificated aircraft.

'The hours of restriction at both airports, and the severe restriction on night jet departures at Heathrow, will apply on the same basis as in the summer of 1974.'

These cuts announced will continue the trend of recent years for a reduction in night jet movements in the interests of noise abatement.

Restrictions on winter night jet movements at Heathrow and Gatwick were introduced from 1 November 1974 and will continue until 31 March 1975.

The restrictions will apply from 2330 hours to 0630 hours Mondays-Saturdays, and from 2330 hours to 0800 hours on Sundays at Heathrow, and from 2330-0600 seven days a week at Gatwick.

Energy Minister calls on industry to appoint energy managers

Energy savings in industry and commerce will only be achieved if there is a real commitment at Board level, said Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy in London on 29 January.

Addressing a conference on 'Energy Recovery in Process Plants', organised by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in London, Mr. Eadie added that a first priority was the appointment of 'energy managers' specifically responsible for minimising energy waste and achieving savings in factories and offices.

'Our publicity campaign, which I trust you have all noticed by now, is centred on the slogan "Energy sense is common sense – save it". General publicity on TV and in the press, as well as encouraging people to use energy wisely in the home, is designed to get workers to carry a common sense attitude to their work place.

'More than 40 per cent of Britain's total annual energy requirement of 360 million tons of coal equivalent is consumed by industry and commerce. And it is in industry and commerce where we find some of the worst examples of energy waste.

'First of all we want to see a specific commitment at Board level to energy savings. And the first move that management can make, to show it's determination to treat the subject seriously, is to appoint an energy manager.

'If the organisation is sufficiently large then there could be a number of energy managers covering various functions, co-ordinated by a member of senior management appointed by the Board.

'A second step is to make energy savings a regular and important part of joint consultation with trade unions and staff.

'Many companies already have suggestion schemes through which employees can make practical proposals on technical and administrative matters. These schemes can be harnessed to get people thinking up simple energy-saving devices and practices. But management should take the initiative. A good start may be to conduct an energy utilisation study – to analyse point by point how much energy you really use and where it all goes. Having done that, it is possible to set a programme and targets for energy savings.

'The success of the programme should be made public by including details of fuel

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expenditure and savings in company annual reports. And also by making an issue of conservation and the avoidance of waste, in house journals and newspapers.

'As the publicity campaign goes on we will be publishing suggestions for specific factory check-lists for works or office managers or, indeed, for our energy manager himself. We also intend to make public case histories of companies which have made real and continuing savings in their fuel bills.

'We do not intend to get too sophisticated. In fact many of our suggestions may seem self-evident in isolation. For instance:

- should time switches be installed for lights?
- are too many lights operated by a single switch?
- is steam escaping from valves, flanges or traps?
- are hot water pipes lagged?
- are drink vending machines on for too long?

'And so on. All simple points. But put them all together; add the dozens of other points I could mention; make a serious and concerted effort to put things right or change working habits; and you could be in business for big fuel savings. And that means financial savings for the company and for the country.'

Turning to the issue of waste energy recovery, Mr. Eadie said:

'We have estimated that there is something between 3,000 and 4,000 megawatts of electricity being provided through private combined heat and power generating plant. This is no mean achievement and demonstrates the awareness of British industry, in the past, of the efficient use of energy in its factories.

'With all the changes in the energy scene there must be further reappraisal of the use of energy in processing. And let me drive the point home, by making it clear that no form of energy is going to be cheap in the future.

'The Government has said that nationalised industries should move as rapidly as possible towards economic pricing levels. Well-endowed with indigenous resources we may be. But we are not going to see any of them wasted because either industry or the domestic consumer can afford to use them without any regard for their real value.

'Today, I believe, methods of energy recovery in process plant which may well have been uneconomic only a few years ago, are now more than worthy of attention. We must do our sums again and make sure that nothing has been discarded that could now be economically viable.'

Overseas customers take the tube

Left: Shining examples of precision steel tubes made by Tubes Ltd., Aston, Birmingham, for long wall hydraulic mining roof supports, promoted during the recent Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry mission to Brazil. The honed and centreless ground hydraulic cylinder tubes will be employed in four-leg 284 tonnes and four-leg 456 tonnes powered roof supports. This company produces tubes in a wide range of finishes – from hot finished direct from the mill, through cold drawn, to specially finished of the highest standards, including bore honing and external grinding. In addition, hydraulic and pneumatic sub-assemblies can be made to customer requirements. Right: Stainless steel precision tubing for a chemical plant heat exchanger, processed at the Plymouth factory of Fine Tubes Ltd. Each year, the company – one of the largest manufacturers of precision tubes in Europe – draws some 30 million feet of tubing in 50 analyses of stainless steel, nickel alloys and special metals. Tubing goes throughout the world to serve the needs of the nuclear, aircraft, instrument, and sports goods industries as well as chemical and process plants.

Britain

Good advice at the right time

Many successful small firms in rural areas are grateful for the financial and advisory services provided by CoSIRA

Display units showing how a Government-sponsored organisation helps small businesses in rural areas of England and Wales are to be sited in all the Department of Industry's Small Firms Information Centres over the next six months.

The Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA) was established by the Development Commission in 1921 as the Rural Industries Intelligence Bureau, was streamlined into its present form in 1968 and placed, still through the Development Commission, under the sponsorship of the Department of the Environment.

As the name suggests, CoSIRA is concerned only with helping small businesses in the countryside. Firms eligible for one or more of its financial, advisory or technical services must be situated in areas and small towns of not more than 10,000 population and employ fewer than 20 skilled staff. Firms directly concerned in agriculture, horticulture and retail trading are ineligible for CoSIRA assistance.

Financial loans of up to £30,000 are available. These loans can be used for new or expanding buildings, for buying new plant, equipment and machinery and for working capital. Repayment periods vary, dependent on loan purpose, between two and 20 years.

In addition, loans are available for tourist enterprises confined to Special Development and Development Areas of England and Wales. These loans can be used for purchasing existing accommodation units, improving the quality of furnishings, central heating, etc., and for the purchase of existing establishments for improvement.

In the 1973/74 financial year loans amounting to £2.75 million were approved and granted to 445 rural businesses. The average industrial loan was just over £5,800 with almost 50 per cent of the money lent being for new buildings and extensions. Almost a quarter of the total aid was granted to tourist projects.

Besides tourism and the craft industries, rural businesses fall into many categories. These include engineering, electronics, black-smithing and agricultural repairers, textile mills and weavers, building contractors and boat builders, saw mills, woodworkers and other activities. Many of these rural craft industries do, for course, receive technical and planning advice from CoSIRA. A considerable proportion of the benefits which flow from a flourishing rural economy arise from social and environmental conditions as much as economic wellbeing.

The front-line troops in CoSIRA's operation are the county organisers: there are 49 of these covering every county of England and Wales. The organisers seek out small firms, assess their problems and, where necessary, channel assistance either from local sources or from CoSIRA's advisory or credit services divisions.

Each county organiser is backed up by a voluntary small industries committee and these play an important and effective part in the service. As sources of local intelligence, an ever-present source of help for field staff and assessors for loan applications, these committees can provide the organiser with priceless information for the small business owner on such items as the availability of labour, services, training schemes, sources of material, market availability and on other matters.

An office, canteen and factory complex was built for Pektron Ltd., a Denbighshire electronic equipment manufacturers, with the aid of CoSIRA finance, and with designs, plans and technical assistance from CoSIRA's building and joinery section.

A CoSIRA display in the Department of Industry's Small Firms Information Centre in Bristol. Such displays will be shown in Small Firms Information Centres throughout the country during the next few months.

Where appropriate, CoSIRA organisers call in the technical and specialist advisers based at the Council's advisory headquarters at Wimbledon. The depth of this advice both in practical terms and range of industries and crafts is unique. Advice on clay technology, electrical specifications, furniture-making, antique furniture restoration, machine shop reorganisation, plastics, fabrication, saddlery and saddle-making, semi-automatic welding, structural design, timber utilisation, woodworking machinery, thatching and wrought ironwork are just some of the subjects covered.

There are also many instructional courses held at the extensive workshops at Wimbledon for owners and staff of small businesses learning new techniques or expanding their knowledge.

Considerable help is given in the form of management advice on such matters as business accountancy, work study, marketing, publicity and on other aspects of administration. It is in this area that most requests for advice have come in recent times, as small firms realise that in order to compete they must get themselves organised, understand and implement hitherto 'high-falutin' terms and management techniques such as cost effectiveness, organisation and method and budget control.

Small businesses, by the nature of their size, are generally very effective and profitable when they are efficiently run. Being small generally means greater flexibility, fewer labour problems, better communications and quicker decisions. Nevertheless, many small firms still need the assistance, support and confidence-building help from CoSIRA at some time. CoSIRA aims to provide this advice at the right time.

Although many small firms fold up whatever the conditions, advice or money supply, there are still hundreds of small businesses in England and Wales thankfully established, developed and prepared to acknowledge that they owe part of their success to one or more of the wide range of services the Council offers.

The display stands are currently sited at the Bristol, Luton and London Small Firms Information Centres before moving to Cardiff and Birmingham about mid-February. The other centres at Nottingham, Manchester, Leeds and Newcastle will house the display for a month at a time from March to June.

Training plays an increasingly large part in the CoSIRA engineering section's work. 'On site' instruction is being developed for application in the workshops of small firms where adequate machinery is available.

Technology News

EEC entry increases Laboratory's tasks

Britain's entry into the European Economic Community has had a marked effect on the work of the Laboratory of the Government Chemist. This fact is revealed in the 1973 Report of the Government Chemist published on 30 January.

The first stage in the adoption of the Communities' Common Customs Tariff led to greatly increased sampling of imported goods of agricultural origin in 1973. Introduction of new schemes of commodity control under the Common Agricultural Policy has added to the referee functions of the Government Chemist. Laboratory officers regularly attend meetings in Brussels to advise on scientific content of new Regulations and Directives. Much laboratory effort has been devoted to evaluating proposed analysis methods. The Laboratory's unique role in serving all British Government departments was highlighted when the Government Chemist acted as host to heads of Customs laboratories from other EEC countries.

The task of assisting HM Customs and Excise in assessment of duty to be collected on alchoholic liquors, hydrocarbon oils, tobacco and a wide range of imported chemical and textile products has continued unabated. It has been complicated by the change to the more complex EC Customs Tariff.

The environment is still one of the main concerns of the Government Chemist. The question of de-icing chemicals used on military airfields was a problem dealt with during the year under review.

In winter, chemicals are used on military airfields so pavements and aircraft remain operational during cold spells. Urea is used to prevent ice formation. Glycol mixture is used to remove ice already formed. Subsequent drainage of these chemicals from airfields may contaminate surface waters. This gives river and water Authorities cause for concern because glycols are toxic. Urea, although not toxic, degrades to ammonia which can be harmful to fish. In excessive amounts it hinders chlorination at waterworks.

At the request of the Government's Property Services Agency methods were developed at the Laboratory for monitoring levels of glycols, urea, and their degradation products in airfield run-off water and in surface waters. Their breakdown in the final receiving water was investigated.

Environmental hazards associated with rapid growth in use of chlorinated pesticides in postwar years highlighted the need for measures to control their use. The effect of pesticides on wildlife is an important indicator of their undesirable side effects. Early studies led to regular monitoring which still continues. More than 3,000 analyses carried out on behalf of the Nature Conservancy by the Laboratory as its contribution to this national exercise are noted in the Report. It surveys developments since the 1955 Zuckermann Report including measures now taken to ensure safer agricultural practice.

The Laboratory has for many years advised the Home Office – and more recently the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection – on possible chemical hazards associated with use of domestic articles. The volume and scope of this work has increased considerably since Britain's entry into the EEC. Laboratory staff have served on technical working groups in Brussels dealing with ceramics, cosmetics, paints, and materials and objects coming into contact with food.

Practical surveys were carried out during the year to assess toxic metal release under conditions of use for a variety of domestic articles. These included glazed pottery, vitreous enamelware, glassware, plastic utensils, metal-coated utensils, toys and toothpaste. The situation was generally satisfactory. But paint films on several toys were found to contain more than the permitted amount of lead. Also, some items of imported vitreous enamelled kitchenware, coloured red or orange, released cadmium when tested with an acid solution designed to simulate the effect of vinegar.

Among other work undertaken during 1973 was the measuring of the tar and nicotine yields of 101 brands of cigarettes sold in Britain.

The investigations of regulated drugs, as in previous years, increased in number and complexity. Cannabis is still most frequently encountered. But detections have increasingly concerned opium and cocaine. Seizures of diamorphine (heroin), methaqualone (a sedative) and amphetamine have also increased Procedure developed in the Laboratory of field testing for habit forming drugs was the subject of a final Patent specification. A testing kit was licensed for commercial manufacture and distribution. Wider use of field-test procedures by HM customs may have improved further the proportion of positive identification.

Since the Low Cost Automation Centre (LCA) at Queen's University, Belfast, was opened in 1968 it has dealt with well over 2,200 technical inquiries, completed more than 60 consultancy projects and operated almost 60 training courses. The Centre was recently visited by Stanley Orme, Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office. The Minister is shown here (left) with Lt. Cdr. I. K. Lasbury (centre), of Short Bros. and Harland Ltd., who is vice-chairman of the LCA Advisory Committee for Northern Ireland, and Prof. Don McCloy, of Queen's University, who is a director of the Centre.

Systems reliability course

The Systems Reliability Service of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority is running, in collaboration with Liverpool University, a course on 'An Introduction to Reliability Assessment, Theory and Practice', to be held at the University, from 7-18 April. This will be the tenth course for industry run by SRS in the past four years and covers techniques applied to both nuclear and non-nuclear industries.

The course is for engineers and technologists of all disciplines concerned with achieving adequate reliability in complex equipment and systems and should be equally interesting for designers, operators and managers, as well as their support staff. It includes the mathematics of probability and its application to testing and maintenance and prediction of failure rates, system synthesis and modelling, including electrical networks, computer analysis techniques and data bank services, etc. The lecturers include staff from SRS and the universities of Liverpool, Birmingham, Bradford and Manchester.

Nominations at a fee of £160 (£135 for associate members of SRS) exclusive of VAT and accommodation, are invited. Applications: Mr. A. C. Wilson or Miss M. Sutton, Systems Reliability Service, UK Atomic Energy Authority, Wigshaw Lane, Culcheth, Warrington, WA3 6AT (tel. Warrington (0925) 31244, ext. 208).

Britain's tin and talc resources

Two further reports* in a series on the minerals of economic importance to the United Kingdom have been published: they deal with tin and talc. The reports have been compiled by the Mineral Resources Division of the Institute of Geological Sciences from information assembled for the inter-departmental Mineral Resources Consultative Committee, and with the assistance of industry

The report on tin is principally devoted to the various aspects of tin production, consumption and trade as they affect this country, but due emphasis is given to the international character of the tin industry, and the dependence of consumers on deposits located mainly in a few developing countries.

Known resources of tin in the UK are almost entirely confined to a belt between Land's End and Dartmoor in south-west England. Around 1870 Cornwall was the world's leading tin producer. Thereafter production declined with the development of other sources, mainly in Australia and the Far East. In recent years there has been a significant revival of interest in Cornish tin. Four underground mines are now in operation, and production of tin-in-concentrates has more than doubled since 1970 to about 3,500 tons. This indigenous production makes a useful contribution to the balance of payments and to employment opportunities in south-west England.

* Both reports are published bp HM Stationery Office: *Tin* – Mineral Dossier No. 9, 65p (74p by post); *Talc* – Mineral Dossier No. 10, 55p (62p by post).

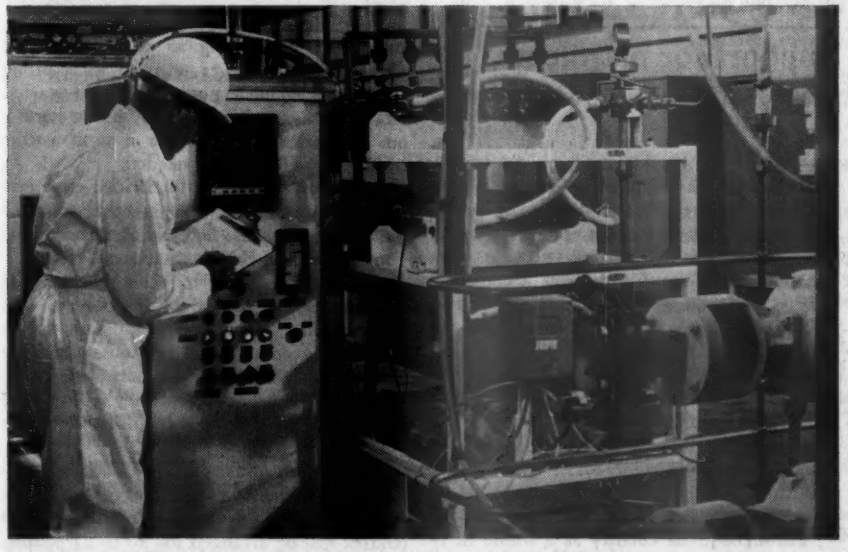
Unlike other metals, tin is the subject of an international commodity agreement embracing most of the major consumers and producers. These are members of the International Tin Council which exerts a measure of influence on price movements through the operation of a buffer stock fund. Leading free world producers are Malaysia, Bolivia, Thailand and Indonesia.

Assistance towards the cost of locating and evaluating deposits of tin minerals in Britain is available under the Mineral Exploration and Investment Grants Act 1972. Details can be obtained from the Department of Industry, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1.

Talc, a hydrated magnesium silicate, has numerous industrial applications. In this country its use as a dusting powder and dry lubricant in pharmaceutical and toilet preparations and as a filler in paint are the most important. It is also used in the roofing felt, rubber and plastics industries, as a filler and dusting agent, and in the manufacture of ceramics, fertilisers and insecticides.

Talc production in the UK is, by world standards, on a modest scale and is almost entirely confined to the island of Unst in the Shetlands. Output has, however, virtually doubled since 1970 and amounted to 20,333 tonnes in 1973 A major proportion of Britain's talc requirements, particularly of high quality material, have to be met by imports, which in 1973 amounted to 63,283 tonnes, valued at £2,266,620.

The report describes the geological occurence of talc, its exploitation, processing and industrial applications. Information on specifications, prices, production and overseas trade is provided and maps show the location of talc deposits on Unst and in Scotland.



This pilot ultra-filtration unit, installed at the Milk Marketing Board's research and development centre at Crudgington, in north western England, has been developed to examine the relatively new technique of filtering out and concentrating the proteins in cheese whey for use in the production of food. Using special filter membranes of cellulose acetate originally used to desalinate sea water, the process is attractive to the dairy industry because it is able to separate proteins from whey and skim milk without the use of heat, so avoiding heat damage to the milk proteins. It is estimated that from 10,000 gallons (45,460 litres) of whey, 790 lb. (358 kg.) of powder can eventually be produced which is about 76 per cent protein, the rest being lactose and water. Although the research unit, which was opened last summer, has been built primarily for the Milk Marketing Board's development work, it also offers a service to food companies using milk in their products.

Fluid flow forum

The National Engineering Laboratory at East Kilbride, Glasgow, will be the venue for a conference (8-10 April) on Fluid Flow Measurement in the mid 1970s. Organised by NEL, the conference is being jointly sponsored by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Institute of Measurement and Control.

The technical programme will include contributions from many sources in industry, academic institutions and government organisations both in Britain and overseas. About 40 papers will be presented in 10 sessions under the following headings: orifice plates; bluff bodies (vortex shedding); electromagnetic flowmeters; velocity measuring techniques; PD and DP meters; calibration techniques; tracer methods; complex velocity measurements; turbine and ultrasonic flowmeters; and 1975 and onward.

The final session will be particularly concerned with the exploitation of existing flow measurement technology. It is important to development of new technology to satisfy ever-more demanding problems which emerge at this critical industrial development period of the mid 1970s.

During the conference the £700,000 extension to Reynolds Building, which gives NEL a unique place as a world centre of test facilities and expertise in flow measurement, will be open for inspection. Other visits and a ladies' programme are being arranged.

Inquiries: Birniehill Institute, National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QU, Scotland.

Designer's guide to fracture mechanics

A one-day course on fracture mechanics for designers will be held at the National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride, Glasgow, on 19 March 1975.

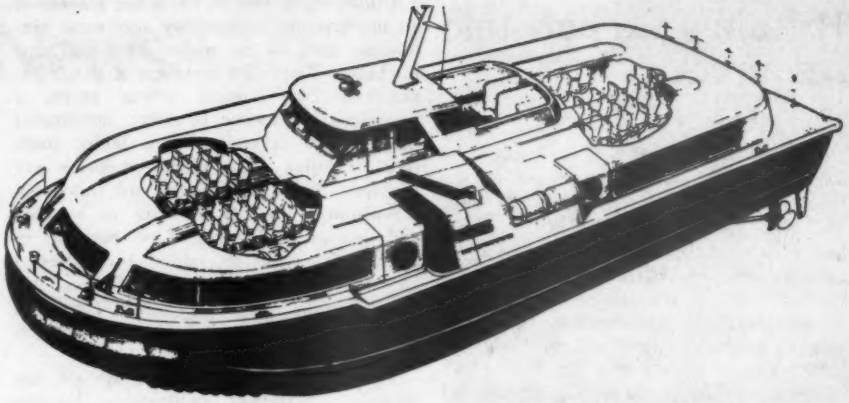
The course is intended for designers and others who take design decisions on structures known, or suspected, to contain crack or crack-line defects. It is intended to provide an understanding of the basic concepts of fracture mechanics, and how these are applied to the study of fracture toughness and fatigue crack growth, so that designers can see the advantages of a fracture mechanics approach to particular problems.

Examples of the application of fracture mechanics to engineering problems, will be discussed, including power plant case histories where economic benefits resulted. Speakers will be drawn from the National Engineering Laboratory and the Central Electricity Generating Board. Although a previous knowledge of fracture mechanics is not required, participants should be familiar with elementary engineering stressing techniques. Further details from Course Organiser, Birniehill Institute, National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QU, tel. East Kilbride 20222, ext. 570.

Right: Diagrammatic drawing of the HM5 sidewall hovercraft. It will have a capacity of from 160 to 200 passengers, varying with the particular operator's choice of layout and engines. The craft is being designed to operate at 35 knots in a 1-metre sea, which will be considered to be its cruise condition. Commercial versions will adopt high-speed diesel engines.

Middle right: A model of the HM5 undergoing tank trials.

Bottom right: The smaller HM2 at speed. This hovercraft, in its conventional passenger version, carries up to 65 passengers at speeds of up to 40 miles/hour, using standard marine diesel engines. Thirty HM2s have already been sold for operation in 14 countries.



Government aid for large sidewall hovercraft development

Hovermarine Transport Ltd. is to develop a large sidewall hovercraft with financial help from the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC).

The new craft, to be known as HM5, has been under development for some time and the prototype is scheduled for launching in late 1976. HTL's technical director, Mr. E. G. Tattersall, has indicated that the hull of the craft will be manufactured in glass reinforced plastics and it will be propelled by diesel engines driving marine propellers. In its commercial form it will be able to carry up to 200 passengers at a service speed of 45 miles/hour. The shallow draught craft will be highly manoeuvrable and will be quiet in operation.

The market for sidewall hovercraft, pioneered by Hovermarine with their successful 65 passenger HM2 craft, is developing worldwide with the growing need for alternative mass transit systems. As a result of this growing demand there are now 30 HM2 craft in 14 different countries.

'This project is the result of a major policy decision,' said Mr. M. R. Richards, managing director of Hovermarine. 'More than £1 million will be committed to it over the next few years by Hovermarine and the NRDC through its subsidiary, Hovercraft Development Ltd. (HDL). The participation of HDL has accelerated development of the HM5 and materially brought forward the launch date. This means that we will be ready to meet the increased traffic forecasts of our existing HM2 operators.'

The HM5 will be a little more than 50 per cent larger in dimensions than the HM2 and will therefore be a more seaworthy craft. Although capable of operating up to seastates of 3 metres, the HM5 is not intended primarily for cross-Channel work but for operation on rivers, estuaries and over relatively level land areas. It is understood that plans are going ahead for another design, the HM4, which will be suitable for cross-Channel service; this craft will carry between 350 and 450 passengers.

It is expected that the price of the HM5 will be about £500,000, based on 1974 cost levels. Suitable for service over route lengths of up to 25 miles, it will lend itself particularly for operation in underdeveloped countries, where it would be ideal for maintaining riverine communications systems.

The NRDC pioneered the early development of the hovercraft through HDL. Hovermarine is a licensee of HDL and the development of the British invention has already brought significant financial returns for the United Kingdom.

Hovermarine Ltd., formed in 1965, currently employs 175 people at its works in Woolston, near Southampton, which were built in 1968. It is expected that the HM5 project will mean an extension of premises this year with the creation of more jobs in 1976. Transportation Technology Inc. (now Hovermarine Corporation), of USA, acquired the original company in 1969 and formed Hovermarine Transport Ltd. Present production capacity is 20 HM2s a year.

Support for petroleum engineering at Heriot-Watt

The Department of Energy is to provide £300,000 to help Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, to set up a Petroleum Engineering Centre. The Centre will provide post-graduate and post industrial experience courses in petroleum engineering.

There will be a new building, on the Riccarton site, to house laboratories, equipment and facilities.

In a statement recently, John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Energy, said the Centre was essential if enough skilled British technicians were to be qualified by the time North Sea oil came ashore in quantity.

'Throughout the country as a whole there is an expectation that North Sea oil will not only help with our energy problems but will provide new opportunities for our people, particularly for Scotland and regions elsewhere in need of development,' Mr. Smith said. 'We want to see jobs for brains as well as for hands.

'The post-graduate course is designed to meet an immediate need for British engineers and other graduates to become qualified in petroleum engineering as well as looking forward in the longer term to their filling senior management posts. If we get started now, suitably qualified people will be coming out of courses in 18 months or so at a time when they will be badly needed.

'It is important, too, for British engineers to get into offshore work in other parts of the world, not least because of the implications for sales of British equipment.'

The main subjects to be studied in the course, leading to an M.Sc. degree, will be reservoir drilling and production engineering. The courses will be housed initially in temporary accommodation on the Riccarton site. It is hoped that they will be able to transfer to the new building by about February 1976.

The initial intake will be for 20 post-graduate students, eventually rising to 30. As the Centre develops, post experience courses will be arranged for 20 to 25 people.

The Government decision to support the venture follows a recommendation by the Interdepartmental Working Party on Education and Training for Offshore Development that one or two centres should provide graduate, post entry and post experience courses in petroleum engineering. Heriot-Watt University and Imperial College, London, were designated as the two petroleum engineering centres.

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

12 February 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Lido Hall, Worthy Lane, Winchester, Hants

Auctioneers: Richard Austin & Wyatt (Dept. L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants PO16 7AX (Tel. 03292-4211)

The lots which are lying at various establishments in Hampshire include two Ships Bells (one unnamed), 50 machine tools, 14,000 jerricans, aluminium, batteries, diesel and petrol engines, electrical – wireless and MT spares, tyres, watches, wooden and metal boxes. Bray diesel tractor model 455, Landrover, farm machinery. 150 lots of furniture including bureaux, chairs, lockers, tables, wardrobes etc. 250 lots of clothing and textiles, blankets, boots, carpets, greatcoats, jerseys, rags, suitcases and other miscellaneous stores.

18 February 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Bristol Esso Hotel, Filton Road, Hambrook, Bristol

Auctioneers: Russell, Baldwin & Bright (Dept. L), 19-21 King Street, Hereford HR4 9DB (Tel. 0432 55441)

The lots which are lying at Hereford and other locations include cranes, vehicles (including Landrovers and buses), trailers, fork lift trucks, Perkins diesel engines, machine tools, generators, water pumps, tyres, axle stands, electronic valves, watches and clocks, sewing machines, tentage, boots and shoes, jerseys, greatcoats, trousers and other clothing, furniture including 480 secretaires, 220 bureaux, 200 dressing chests, wardrobes, tables and chairs, MT, aircraft and electrical spares, ferrous and non-ferrous scrap and other miscellaneous stores.

Catalogues for the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the date of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

Department of Trade

Ship for Sale

Offers are invited for the purchase of the undermentioned Royal Fleet Auxiliary 'as lying' at HM Naval Base, Portsmouth.

'BROWN RANGER' Steel, built 1941. G.R.T. 3462 N.R.T. 1569 Length (BP) 344 ft. 6 in. Breadth 46 ft. 9 in. Depth (mld) 22 ft. 6 in. Light Displacement 2892 tons. Engine: Single screw, diesel, by Harland & Wolff Ltd. BHP 2797.

Copies of form of purchase agreement, further particulars, plans and authority to inspect can be obtained from the Department of Trade, Room 42, Parliament Square House, 34/36 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2ND. Tel: 01-212 8996.

Offers should be addressed to the Department of Trade, Room 43 at the above address in envelopes clearly marked 'Offer to Purchase "BROWN RANGER' " and must be received not later than *noon* on 6 March 1975.

The above information is given for guidance only and any prospective purchaser must satisfy himself regarding actual details of the vessel and her present condition.

On the instructions of ROBIN H. STEWART ESQ., F.C.A., the Receiver of Naylor Bros. Ltd., Structural Engineers, Golborne and McIntyre & Sons (Liverpool) Ltd., Constructional Engineers, Liverpool

G. F. SINGLETON & CO.,

Industrial Surveyors and Auctioneers

will offer FOR SALE BY AUCTION, piecemeal at YORK STREET WORKS, GOLBORNE, LANCS. on TUESDAY 25th and WEDNESDAY 26th FEBRUARY 1975 at 11 a.m. on each day and at STANHOPE STREET WORKS, LIVERPOOL on THURSDAY, 27th FEBRUARY 1975 at 11 a.m. (subject to Conditions of Sale)

SHEARING, FOLDING AND GENERAL ENGINEERING MACHINERY

including two 'Rhodes' HYDROVERSAL SHEARS 12 ft × ⅜ in and 8 ft × ¼ in, 'Keetona' SQUARING SHEAR, UNIVERSAL FOLDING BRAKE each 100 in × ¼ in, three PLATE BENDERS 6 ft/10 ft, 'Craig & Donald' and 'Pels' Punchers and Shearers, 'Bennie' Puncher and Cropper, 'Keetona' and 'Edwards' 6 ft × ¼ in. GUILLOTINES, 'Staffa' HORIZONTAL BENDER, LATHES by 'Ward', 'Cardiff', 'Mitchell', 'Stanley', 'Swift' etc. 'Milwaukee' and 'Edgwick' Millers, 'Cincinnati' Tool Grinder, Shapers, Slotters, RADIAL DRILLS 3 ft/8 ft arms, two 'Dickinson' Horizontal Borers, WELDING EQUIPMENT, 'Quicky' Profile Cutter, two Compressed Air Riveters,

CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERING PLANT

including, 'B.O.C.' 1974 BEAM CASTELLATING MACHINE, 'Asquith' Girder-type Radial Drills, WELDING TRANSFORMERS AND EQUIPMENT, two Steel Plate Lay-out Tables, 'Mubea' 1974 SINGLE-END PUNCH, 'S. M. T.' Double-side Cropping and Punching Machine, 'Trennjaeger' MODEL LKH 310/1000 40 in AUTOMATIC and 'Clifton Baird' 22 in COLD SAWS, Hack Saw, Grinding and Screwing Machines, 'Salter' WEIGHING SCALES.

Woodworking Machinery, AIR COMPRESSORS, Small Tools, Engineers Stores, Nuts, Bolts, OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT, Mercury *Vapour Spot Lighting.*

Also 'Lancer Boss' 9,000 lb and 6,600 lb DIESEL SIDE LOADERS, four 'Lansing Bagnall' Electric Stillage Trucks.
'Coles Hydra Truck' 12 ton MOBILE CRANE, '22 RB' CATERPILLAR CRANE, 'Muirhill' T8 MOBILE CRANE, 'Dennis' 15 ton DIESEL FLAT, 'Morris' Petrol Van, two Dropside Lorries and three Motor Cars.

Approx. 148 TONS STEEL (mainly Sections)

Inspection Friday 21st Feb. and Monday 24th Feb. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day or by appointment. Catalogues from the Auctioneers at 53 King Street, Manchester (Tel. 061-832 8271).

N.B. THE VALUABLE INDUSTRIAL PREMISES–101,500 sq ft on 11.75 acre site at Golborne and 33,220 sq ft FACTORY and OFFICES at Liverpool are on offer FOR SALE PRIVATELY.
Full Particulars from the Auctioneers as above.

Parliament

Monday, 27 January

Industrial activity

Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry is satisfied with the level of industrial activity; and what action he proposes to take.

'No, Sir, we are not satisfied with the present level of industrial activity,' said Mr. Heffer. 'We intend shortly to bring before the House a new Industry Bill, to give effect to the policies outlined by the Government in its White Paper on the Regeneration of British Industry. By providing, for the first time, for full co-operation between the Government and all sections of manufacturing industry, they will, in our opinion, be material in leading to improvements in our industrial performance.'

Government assistance to industry

Mr. Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked for a list of insolvent enterprises to which public money has been advanced.

'The Government does not support companies when they are insolvent,' answered Mr. MacKenzie. 'Since August 1972, assistance under the Industry Act 1972 has been granted or offered to 33 companies who have applied for support when confronting financial difficulty.'

Imperial Typewriter Co.

Mr. John Prescott (Kingston upon Hull East) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would take action to prevent the closure of the British Imperial Typewriter plant in Hull; and what discussions are taking place with the American multinational company Litton Industries to encourage them to alter their decision.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State has asked the company's management to consider any proposals which the unions representing the workers at the factories of the Imperial Typewriter Co. Ltd. may put forward and proposes to have further discussions with the management. Until the full facts of the situation have been established, it would be premature to express any view on the future prospects for the factory. The possibility of assistance under the Industry Act 1972 will be borne in mind.'

Grants to shipbuilding industry

Mr. Frederick Willey (Sunderland North) asked for a statement on building grants to United Kingdom shipbuilders.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'The Industry Act 1972 provided temporary assistance to the shipbuilding industry by grants payable on ships whose construction was begun before 1 January 1975. We do not propose to extend the period.'

Plans for nationalisation

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) wanted to know the numbers of members of the staff of the Department of Industry engaged (a) full time and (b) part time in the preparation of plans for nationalisation; and the grades of the staff concerned.

Mr. Heffer answered: 'Excluding staff providing secretarial assistance, those directly engaged at present in the preparation of plans for the nationalisation of the aircraft and shipbuilding industries total 14 full-time and 10 part-time. Information by grades is as follows:

	Full-time	Part-time
Deputy Secretary	–	3
Under Secretary	–	3
Senior Director, Accountant	–	1
Assistant Secretary	2	1
Assistant Solicitor	1	–
Principal	4	–
Chief Accountant	–	2
Legal Assistant	1	–
Higher Executive Officer	1	–
Administration Trainee	3	–
Clerical Officers	2	–

Nationalisation of shipbuilding industry

Mr. David Price (Eastleigh) asked when the Secretary of State for Industry intends to introduce his Bill to nationalise the British shipbuilding, ship-repairing and marine engine industries; and whether any alterations would be made to the list of companies to be nationalised as listed in Annexes A to C of his consultative document of 31 July 1974.

'The Government will introduce the Bill as soon as possible in the current Parliamentary Session,' said Mr. Benn. 'Following consultations on the discussion paper I hope to announce the Government's detailed proposals shortly.'

Nationalisation of aircraft industry

Mr. Kenneth Warren (Hastings) asked the Secretary of State for Industry: 'If he will start consultations with other Common Market aircraft manufacturers as to the future of their business relationships with the British companies he is seeking to nationalise?'

Mr. Benn answered: 'It has been made quite clear that all those in contractual relationship with the companies can be assured that existing obligations will be fully honoured. It will be for the new Corporation to consider its strategy on collaboration with overseas aircraft manufacturers.'

Mr. Eldon Griffiths (Bury St. Edmunds) asked if the proposals for the nationalisation of the aircraft industry are subject to the condition that the United Kingdom remains a member of the EEC.

'Our proposals to bring the aircraft industry into public ownership in no way depend on the question of our continued membership of the European Economic Community,' said Mr. Heffer.

Airships for cross-Channel freight

Questions were asked by Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) on the progress of studies of a heavy lift airship for cross-channel freight; on the Mowforth Report, on the possibility of research into further studies designed to transfer by conventional airship or otherwise freight and motor vehicles across the Channel or the North Sea to the Continent, and if the feasibility has been considered of the circular planform lenticular cross section displacement aircraft for cross-channel transportation.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'My Department has received papers from and held discussions with several companies and individuals concerned with future airships for freight carrying, including Dr. Mowforth. So far however the Department has not seen any proposals for airship design construction and certification backed by sufficient research and

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Ministers of State: Eric Heffer
Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection:
Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

investigation for studies of the airship's economics to be made. The costs of operation of freight airships are therefore not yet known with enough accuracy for comparisons to be made with other forms of transportation, and without such comparisons it is not possible to undertake the studies envisaged by the Hon. Member. My Department will however continue to pursue these matters with the organisations concerned with the promotions of airship design.'

Concorde

Mr. Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked if any further options have been taken on Concorde; when the Japan Air Lines option extends to; and for a statement on the difficulties likely to be faced on the production line with sub-contractors beyond the 16 aircraft already authorised.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The option position remains as set out in the reply given to the Hon. Member for Newbury on 9 December. The options on three aircraft held by Japan Air Lines, which do not involve payment of a deposit, have been extended until the end of 1975. I am not aware of any problems with sub-contractors which endanger the continuity of production.'

Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked for a statement on progress with the production and development of Concorde.

Mr. Heffer said: 'The manufacturers are pressing ahead with the authorised programme for the development of the entry into service version and the production of 16 aircraft, with the objective of enabling commercial services to start at the earliest practicable date. Concorde is still expected to receive a Certificate of Airworthiness by the end of 1975.'

HS146

Mrs. Helene Hayman (Welwyn and Hatfield) asked what action is being taken to protect the design capability of the HS146 project since the statement of 9 December and what progress has been made in determining the future of the HS146 project since the tripartite talks on 13 December 1974.

Mr. Benn answered: 'I met representatives of the company and the unions on 13 December to discuss how we could best make progress. The parties involved confirmed that they were prepared in principle to take part in further discussions on a tripartite basis. Arrangements are being made accordingly, including the submission of papers by the company and the unions and direct discussions with both sides. Final details for the next meeting have yet to be agreed but all those involved are anxious to make progress and I hope that it will take place soon.'

Mr. Paul B. Rose (Manchester, Blackley) asked if steps would be taken to ensure the production of the HS146 without losing markets by reason of delay.

Mr. Heffer said: 'In the tripartite talks, which are a continuing process, we are discussing the implementation of the Governments decision of 9 December which took due account of the market situation to maintain the option of continuing with the HS146 project.'

Dockland study

Mr. Ian Mikardo (Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow) spoke of job losses in the five boroughs coveted by the Dockland Study running at a rate of about 3 per cent per annum, which is nearly double the figure for London as a whole, and to unemployment in parts of this area at a rate higher than the average figure for the development and special development areas, and asked if urgent steps would be taken designed to deal with this problem.

'I cannot accept the implication in the question that employment problems in the London Docklands are in any way comparable with those in the Assisted Areas,' said Mr. Heffer. 'However, I do recognise the Docklands have special problems like many other inner urban areas, including a decline in manufacturing employment. The Government is now having these studied by the various Departments concerned and will decide on the appropriate action when the reports are received.

'In the meantime, in my Department, I will ensure that the difficulties of the Docklands are taken fully into account when applications for industrial development certificates for the area are being considered.'

Hydrogen peroxide

Mr. Skeet inquired about the annual production of hydrogen peroxide in the UK and other European Community States in the last available year.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The information is not available for the UK, Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. Production by the other European Community States in 1972, the latest year for which figures are available, was:

	'000 tonnes
Federal Republic of Germany	161.4
France	142.0
Italy	75.5
Ireland	Nil
Denmark	Nil

BSC applications for EC loans

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) asked for a list of the applications for financial assistance made to EEC institutions on behalf of the British Steel Corporation (a) before 28 February 1974, and (b) after 28 February 1974, stating the result of the application in each case.

Mr. Meacher said: 'In addition to these applications by my Department on behalf of the British Steel Corporation, applications for loans from the ECSC and the EIB, and for ECSC research grants, are also made directly by the Corporation.'

Imports of textiles, etc.

Mr. George Reid (Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire) asked what representations had been received from British worsted spinners over the importation of acrylic yarns from the Far East.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'On 12 December 1974 the British Worsted Spinners' Federation Ltd. presented an application for action under the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969 against imports of acrylic yarn from the Far East. These are already the subject of an anti-dumping investigation by the EEC Commission as a result of an earlier application; consequently any further anti-dumping action will be taken by the Commission with whom we are in touch.

'Simultaneously discussions are taking place in Brussels on the level of imports of acrylic and other synthetic yarns in order to decide whether restraints would be justifiable under the GATT Multifibre Agreement.'

Mr. John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked for information on the value of imports of textiles, acrylic fibres, garments including shirts, blouses and knitwear, and footwear in 1974; its percentage of total consumption; and how this compared with the previous year.

Mr. Deakins said imports were as follows:

	£ million	
	1973	1974
Textiles (including acrylic fibres)	556	760
Acrylic fibres	11	15
Garments	323	389
Footwear	84	109

Imports as a percentage of UK consumption, in the latest periods available, are estimated as follows:

	Percentages		
	1973	1973 1st half	1974 1st half
Textiles	20	19	24
Garments	19	18	22
		1973 1st 3 qtr.	1974 1st 3 qtr.
Footwear	20	20	23

Figures for acrylic fibres are not available.

Mr. Osborn also asked of the total imports of these products, how many were from Eastern bloc and Warsaw Pact countries, and how much from developing countries.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information (see next page) for January-November 1974:

GOVERNMENT APPLICATIONS FOR EEC FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BSC

Category of assistance	Location or activity	Application made before 28.2.74	Application made before 28.2.74	Result
1 Reconversion loans	Expansion at Ravenscraig	£14.8 million		Agreed
2 Grants for industry studies carried out by BSC	(i) Use of redundant blast furnace for treatment of urban refuse	£9,000		Agreed
	(ii) Assessment of training courses for redundant steel workers	£10,000		Agreed
	(iii) Training manual preparation	£2,000		Agreed
3 Readaption benefits for workers made redundant by curtailment of activity at BSC plants	(i) Colsterworth	£50,000		Agreed
	(ii) Scunthorpe	£700,000		Agreed
	(iii) Cookley		£30,750	Agreed
	(iv) Shotton		£21,000	Agreed
	(v) Stanton		£289,500	Agreed
	(vi) Harlaxton and Woolsthorpe		£18,250	Agreed
	(vii) Cargo Fleet		£50,000	Agreed
	(viii) Irlam		£736,000	Agreed
	(ix) Workington		£101,200	Agreed
	(x) Whitehead		£38,100	Under consideration

Parliament continued

£ thousand cif

	Eastern Bloc and Warsaw Pact countries	Developing countries	Total all sources
Textiles (including acrylic fibres)	13,021	130,271	697,698
Acrylic fibres	763	19	14,175
Garments	10,262	181,701	363,976

Mr. Osborn then asked if the Secretary of State for Trade is satisfied that existing anti-dumping legislation is protecting the textile, acrylic fibre, and garment making industries.

Mr. Deakins said: 'The Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969 provides substantial protection against dumped or subsidised imports which cause or threaten material injury to a British industry. I have at present one anti-dumping application from the textile industry, which relates to acrylic yarn from the Far East. Anti-dumping action is of course only one form of protection and the textile industry is helped by a wide range of restraints on imports from low-cost sources.'

Imports

Mr. Denzil Davies (Llanelli) asked what percentage of the UK import bill was attributable to imports from (a) USA, (b) West Germany, and (c) France, in the years 1971, 1972, 1973 and 1974.

Mr. Deakins gave the following percentages:

	1971	1972	1973	1974
USA	11.1	10.5	10.2	9.7
West Germany	6.6	7.6	8.5	8.2
France	4.5	5.4	6.2	5.8

Sir John Hall (Wycombe) asked what was the total of manufactured and semi-finished goods imported by UK, West Germany, France and Italy in the years 1963 and 1973, respectively, stated as a percentage of gross domestic product; and what was the trend in 1974.

Mr. Deakins answered that imports of the categories requested as a percentage of gross domestic product at current market prices were:

		Semi-finished goods (1)	Finished manufactures (2)	All manufactured goods (3)
United Kingdom	1963	3.0	2.1	5.2
	1973	6.1	6.5	12.6
	1974 Jan.-Sept.	8.3	7.1	15.4
German FR	1963	3.5	2.3	5.8
	1973	4.6	4.5	9.1
	1974 Jan.-Sept. (4)	5.2	4.5	9.8
France	1963	2.4	2.5	4.9
	1973	4.3	5.0	9.3
	1974 Jan.-June (5)	5.5	5.4	10.9
Italy	1963	3.6	3.7	7.2
	1973	5.1	4.9	9.9
	1974	..	..	..

.. = not available.

Source:
UK: Central Statistical Office, Department of Trade. Other countries: OECD Main economic indicators and statistics of foreign trade series B.

(1) SITC(R) Sections 5 and 6.
(2) SITC(R) Sections 7 and 8.
(3) SITC(R) Sections 5 to 8.
(4) The 1974 figures of GDP are based on figures published in the Monthly Reports of the Deutsche Bundesbank Series 4.
(5) The 1974 figures are based on estimates of GDP published in OECD Economic Outlook, December 1974.

Company liquidity

Mr. Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Industry: 'Whether the number of companies refusing to provide information for the Department of Industry survey on company liquidity covering the second quarter of 1974 is the highest on record?'

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'No additional companies withdrew their co-operation from this survey for either the second or third quarters of 1974. Results for the third quarter were published in *Trade and Industry* on 12 December 1974.'

Food subsidies

Mrs. Sally Oppenheim (Gloucester) asked for estimates of the cost of food subsidies at their current rate in the next 12 months.

Mrs. Williams said: 'The cost of continuing the subsidies at their present rates for 12 months is estimated at about £580 million. However, the actual level of expenditure in the coming year will depend on decisions still to be taken on the prices of subsidised foods.'

Hovercraft

Referring to 'the cancellation of the Channel Tunnel project', Mr. Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight) asked if funds would be provided to further the development and construction of hovercraft capable of carrying substantially greater traffic than at present.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The National Research Development Corporation will consider proposals made to them for aid with the further development of hovercraft. The future development of cross-channel hovercraft services is however primarily a matter for the commercial judgement of the operators concerned.'

Mr. R. C. Mitchell (Southampton, Itchen) inquired what assistance was given to the British hovercraft industry in 1974; and what is proposed for 1975.

'It is expected that in the current financial year support from all sources will be about £1 million. In 1975/76 it is expected to be about £1.4 million,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Dumping of flowers

Mr. Stanley Newens (Harlow) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would investigate the dumping of carnations and other flowers from abroad at prices below the cost of production and the effects on the market for home grown flowers.

'Carnations and other flowers are subject to the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC,' said Mr. Deakins. 'Since our entry into the European Communities action against dumping of such products is taken by the EEC Commission. If producers of carnations wish to make an anti-dumping application to the Commission my Department in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food will be glad to advise them how they should set about it.'

Commissioners of Irish Lights

'What are the composition and duties of the Commissioners of Irish Lights?' asked Mr. John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest).

Mr. Clinton-Davis answered: 'There are 21 Commissioners, including the Lord Mayor of Dublin and three Aldermen or Councillors appointed by the Dublin Corporation, the remainder being co-opted members with a wide range of experience and interest in the sea. They superintend and manage lighthouses, buoys and beacons throughout Ireland and the adjacent seas and islands.'

Carriage of chlorine

Mr. Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked for an estimate of the quantity of chlorine carried by sea to British ports; and if all necessary precautions are being taken to prevent its escape through collision or other causes.

'I am aware of only one vessel carrying chlorine in bulk to and from British ports,' answered Mr. Clinton Davis. 'Its capacity is 210 tons and it plies between British ports once and sometimes twice a week. Everything practicable is being done to prevent accidents. In addition, about 4,000 tons of chlorine is carried into and out of our ports annually in cylinders and must be handled in accordance with my Department's statutory requirements for the carriage of dangerous goods.'

OECD

Information was sought by Mr. Dafydd Thomas (Merioneth) on the average annual percentage growth, expressed in dollars, of imports and exports, respectively, of each of the member states of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, during the periods 1948-58 and 1958-73 and at the latest available date.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information:

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842.

	Imports ($ values)			Exports ($ values)		
	Annual average growth rate		Percentage change Jan.-June 1974	Annual average growth rate		Percentage change Jan.-June 1974
	1948/58 %	1958/73 %	Jan.-June 1973	1948/58 %	1958/73 %	Jan.-June 1973
Canada	7.1	10.5	34.5	5.0	11.3	29.9
United States	6.4	11.7	41.4	3.5	9.7	44.6
Japan	16.1	18.4	83.7	27.3	18.5	48.2
Australia	3.8	9.4	70.8	0.1	12.5	14.7
New Zealand	5.9	6.9	74.6	3.5	9.1	−6.0
Austria	10.7	13.1	37.7	16.6	11.9	49.7
Belgium/Luxembourg	4.4	13.8	42.8	6.1	14.2	35.6
Denmark	6.7	12.2	41.0	8.5	11.0	35.6
Finland	4.1	12.6	56.6	4.4	11.3	55.0
France	5.4	13.1	48.4	9.8	13.8	31.3
German FR	16.4	13.9	31.2	28.0	14.2	44.1
Greece	4.5	12.9	41.3	9.5	13.0	76.8
Iceland	1.9	10.0	63.5	0.8	10.4	20.8
Ireland	0.1	11.3	41.7	6.3	12.4	24.5
Italy	7.6	15.5	61.2	9.1	15.4	41.5
Netherlands	6.8	13.6	41.5	12.1	14.3	38.0
Norway	5.7	10.9	50.5	6.0	13.1	40.9
Portugal	1.5	12.6	55.8	5.3	12.9	34.1
Spain	6.1	17.3	65.2	2.7	17.1	33.8
Sweden	5.6	10.5	50.4	6.5	12.5	31.9
Switzerland	3.9	13.6	32.7	6.8	12.9	31.4
Turkey	−1.0	13.5	76.8	2.3	11.8	43.0
United Kingdom	2.5	8.9	48.1	3.7	8.1	25.8

Sources:
1948 and all figures for New Zealand: United Nations Statistical Yearbook and Monthly Bulletin of Statistics.
1958-74: OECD Statistics of Foreign Trade Series A.

Collisions in the English Channel

Mr. Grant also wanted to know how many collisions have taken place in the English Channel in each of the last five years; the nationalities of the vessels involved; and what steps are being taken to reduce the number of such collisions.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'The information is not readily available for the whole of the English Channel. For the Dover Strait (the sea area bounded by latitudes 50°N and 51°N 30′N and by longitudes 0° and 2.30′E) numbers of collisions involving a ship of 500 tons or more between 1970 and 1974 were as follows:

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Collisions in fog*	9	7	3	3	2
Other collisions	2	4	3	0	4
Total collisions	11	11	6	3	6

* Visibility less than 4 km.

The nationalities of the 74 vessels involved were as follows:

12 United Kingdom	1 Argentina, Bulgaria, Ghana, Italy, Monaco, Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain
11 Liberia	
7 Greece, Denmark	
6 West Germany	
5 France	
3 Cyprus, Panama	2 Unknown
2 Belgium, Norway, Poland, Sweden	

'The figures, particularly those for collisions in fog, show an encouraging downward trend following the introduction of the Traffic Separation Scheme in 1967 and its modification, together with the introduction of the Channel Navigation Information Service, in 1972. Additional navigation aids are being provided, steps have been taken to extend the radar cover of the Dover Strait, and we are continuing to co-operate with the French Government on further measures to improve safety in the Channel.'

North Sea oil

Mr. Grimond (Orkney and Zetland) asked for estimates in coal and coal equivalent of the reserves of North Sea oil and the new Yorkshire coalfield.

Mr. Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, said: 'Recoverable reserves of oil from proven and probable commercial discoveries in the UK sector of the North Sea are estimated to be some 1,800 million tons of coal equivalent.

'In the area of the Selby coalfield covered by the layout plan in the NCB's planning application, it is estimated that approximately 600 million tons of coal exists in the ground, in the Barnsley seam. The proportion of these reserves which can be economically recovered is currently being evaluated.'

Mr. Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked if the current rate of development of the oil and gas fields offshore the UK is considered to be satisfactory.

Mr. Eadie replied: 'The current rate of development of UK North Sea fields should lead to production of oil and gas within the ranges predicted in my Right Hon. Friend's 1974 Report to Parliament, ie gas production up to 5,000 million cubic feet per day and oil production from 100 to 140 million tons per annum.'

Offshore Supplies Office

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) inquired about the appointment of Venture Managers to the Offshore Supplies Office; their relationship to the proposed Scottish Development Agency.

Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, said: 'There are four Venture Managers already in post, three in London and one in Glasgow. A second post in Glasgow is currently being filled. One of the Venture Managers in post is a permanent civil servant at Senior Principal Scientific Officer level. The others are on individual two-year contracts at about Assistant Secretary level with salary based on technical qualifications and experience. The Offshore Supplies Office as a whole will work closely with the Scottish Development Agency when it is established to help Scottish industry to take full advantage of the opportunities arising from UK offshore activities.'

Plutonium

Mr. Ted Leadbitter (Hartlepool) asked for a statement on the present methods of processing, transporting and storing plutonium.

Mr. Eadie replied that the present methods for the processing and storage of plutonium on sites licensed under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 are subject to conditions attached to the site licences. These conditions, which provide the necessary safety standards, are enforced by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate of the Health and Safety Executive. The same standards are applied at Nuclear Installations under the control of the Atomic Energy Authority and Government Departments. The Secretary of State for Energy is satisfied with these arrangements. 'The safe transport of all radioactive materials including plutonium is the concern of the Secretary of State for the Environment, who is satisfied with the methods employed,' said Mr. Eadie.

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Tuesday, 28 January

EC assistance for UK steel industry

Mr. Peter Blaker (Blackpool South) inquired about the value of requests submitted by the UK for loan assistance from the European Communities for modernisation and reconversion projects in the British steel industry in 1974 and since 5 March 1974 until the latest available date; and the value of such requests submitted in the comparable period in 1973, and in 1972.

Mr. Benn replied: 'The EEC Commission have given the following figures in the European Parliament:

	£ million
1973/74 (15 months to March 1974)	35
1974 (from March)	5.5

'These figures cover four applications in the first period, and three in the second. However the figure for 1973/4 includes one loan of £10 million the final application for which following discussions during both periods, was made in April 1974, and another loan for which a supplementary application of £7.5 million was made in December 1974. Thus the use of a different, although equally valid, definition of "application" to that used by the Commission would result in the following figures:

	£ million
1973/74 (15 months to March 1974)	25
1974 (from March)	23

No applications were made in 1972.'

Court Line

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked for what activities other than shipbuilding, shiprepairing and marine engineering the Secretary of State for Industry is responsible as a result of the nationalisation of part of the Court Line group; how many employees are engaged in such activities; and about plans for the future of those activities.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The following companies which are not directly involved in shipbuilding, shiprepairing and marine engineering but which are subsidiaries of such companies, were acquired from the former Court Line Group and are now my responsibility.

Company	Principal business	No. of employees
Appledore Construction Ltd.	No longer trading	—
Seemark Switches Ltd.	No longer trading	—
R. Harris and Son (Builders) Ltd.	Building and contracting	270
R. Harris and Son (Concrete) Ltd.	(Now merged with Devon Concrete Works Ltd.)	—
R. Harris and Son (Plant Hire) Ltd.	Lorry hire and maintenance	10
Devon Concrete Works Ltd.	Pre-cast concrete blocks	80
Warethorn Properties Ltd.	(Now merged with R. Harris and Son (Builders) Ltd.)	—
Lintsgress Ltd.	Investment company	—
K and L Marine Equipment Ltd.	Hydraulic engineering	130
North East Coast Contractors Ltd.	Building and civil engineering contractors	10
Sunderland Magnetic Ltd.	Computer bureau and printing services	40
The Sunderland Forge and Engineering Co. Ltd.	Shipbuilding and engineering products	660
Wolsingham Steel Co. Ltd.	Steel castings	410

I expect these companies will continue to trade commercially as going concerns.'

Mr. Trotter also asked about the means by which public control is being exercised over the management of the former Court Line activities, and about the procedure for the monitoring of plans and performance.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The relationship between my Department and the former Court Line shipbuilding companies was defined in formal letters to them dated 19 September 1974; the companies accepted the terms of these letters. My Department receives regular financial and production information to enable it to monitor progress. This is supplemented by frequent meetings between officials and representatives of the various companies.'

Mr. Trotter then asked how many of the main board directors of the Court Line holding company at the time of its collapse are now publicly employed following the nationalisation of part of the group's activities.

'The five members of the main board of Court Line Ltd., who were also directors of Court Line's shipbuilding and shiprepairing interests continue to be employed at Appledore Shipbuilders Ltd., Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd., and North East Coast Shiprepairers Ltd.' said Mr. Meacher.

'What changes have been made in the management of the former Court Line shipbuilding and repairing activities following their nationalisation?' asked Mr. Trotter.

Mr. Meacher said: 'At the time the former shipbuilding and shiprepairing activities of Court Line were brought into public ownership, resignations were received from those non-executive directors of the three main companies who did not hold executive directorships in other companies acquired. Three of the shipbuilding directors also resigned from the board of North East Coast Shiprepairers Ltd., whose board was strengthened by two internal promotions.'

Imports of acrylic yarn

Mr. George Reid asked for a table showing the imports of acrylic yarn from Taiwan, South Korea and Hong Kong, respectively, for each of the last five years.

Mr. Deakins gave the following figures:

Metric tons

	Taiwan	South Korea	Hong Kong
1970	—	—	—
1971	0	—	0
1972	399	0	0
1973	1,067	—	—
1974 Jan.-Nov.	1,838	877	194

Note:
— means nil and 0 signifies less than 500 kg.

Imports of timber

Mr. Hamish Watt (Banff) asked about the cost of timber imports and its proportion to the total balance of payments deficit of timber for 1974.

'There are no balance of payments figures relating specifically to timber.' said Mr. Deakins. 'In 1974 imports of timber (defined as Division 24 of the Standard International Trade Classification (Revised)) valued cif were £590 million, while exports valued fob were £6 million; thus the crude deficit (the difference between these figures) was 99 per cent of the value of imports.'

Food subsidies

Mrs. Sally Oppenheim (Gloucester) wanted to know the estimated cost, in a full year, of subsidies on butter, milk, bread, cheese, tea, and household flour, respectively.

'The table below shows the estimated cost of continuing the subsidies at their present rates for a full year,' said Mrs. Williams. 'The actual level of expenditure in the coming year will depend on decisions still to be taken on the prices of subsidised foods.

	£ million
Bread	79
Butter	69*
Cheese	59
Household flour	8
Milk	335
Tea	31
Total	581

* In addition about £11 million per annum is at present being contributed from EEC funds.

Monopolies Commission reports on nationalised industries

Mr. John Wakeham (Maldon) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what cases she has referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission asking it to investigate and report on nationalised industries; and what reports are currently available.

'None, in respect of the nationalised industries' statutory monopolies,' answered Mr. Williams. 'But the Commission's report on connection charges for electricity and gas was published in July 1972 (Cmnd 5036) and that on cross-Channel car ferry services, including those operated by British Rail, was published as a House of Commons paper (No. 14) on 10 April 1974.'

Price increases in the nationalised industries

Mr. John Wakeham (Maldon) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection; 'Whether she has determined the criteria upon which she will allow price increases in the nationalised industries; and by what dates she expects them to be in surplus?'

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'The Government have set out in paragraphs 97-106 of the Price Code (Statutory Instrument 1974 No. 2113 (as amended by No. 2158)) the criteria to be followed by the Price Commission when considering price increase applications by nationalised industries. It is not possible to estimate a date by which nationalised industries as a whole can be expected to be in surplus. The recent application to the Price Commission by the Post Office Corporation is designed to reduce its deficit in the 1975/76 accounting year to about £50 million.'

EEC energy, imports, consumption and production

Questions were asked by Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) on the net imports of oil, the dependence on imported energy, the energy production, analysing such production between coal, crude oil, natural gas and other sources, the energy consumption, the net imports of coal, in million tons, the percentage of total energy consumption which came from coal and how much coal was produced by each of the nine member states of the EEC in 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970 and 1974, respectively.

Mr. Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, gave the following information:

EEC loans to coal industry

Mr. Peter Blaker (Blackpool South) wanted to know the value of requests submitted by the UK for loan assistance from the European Communities for modernisation and reconversion projects in the British coal industry in 1974, and since 5 March 1974, until the latest available date; and the value of such requests submitted in the comparable period in 1973, and in 1972.

Mr. Eadie said: 'During the periods mentioned I understand the National Coal Board applied for loan assistance under Article 54 of the Treaty of Paris for projects with total capital costs as follows:

5 March 1973–January 1974	£17.8m
5 March 1974–January 1975	£71.5m
1974 (calender year	£82.5m

The UK was not a member of the Community in 1972. Assistance is limited to 40 per cent of the total cost of a project. Some £18 million has been received by the Board to date. The Board has not so far sought any reconversion loans under Article 56 of the Treaty for which application would have to be made by the Government on its behalf.'

Underwater welding

Mr. Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked if funds will be allocated for the purpose of research and development of underwater welding.

'In the financial year 1974/75 the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board expects to spend £86,000 on research and development in underwater welding,' said Mr. Meacher.

The range of statistics asked for has not been published by EEC in respect of all member states of the enlarged Community. The following figures have been derived from the sources indicated using the conventions adopted by the UN Statistical Office for calculating tonnes of coal equivalent. Figures for 1974 are not yet available nor are comparable figures of coal imports in 1950.

		Germany	France	Italy	Nether-lands	Belgium (see Note on sources)	Luxem-bourg	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark	
Energy production (million tonnes of coal, or coal equivalent)											
Total (m. tonnes c.e.)	1950	152.2	54.4	4.9	13.2	27.3		220.8	0.2	0.3	
	1955	183.6	61.3	10.4	13.5	30.0		225.6	0.3	0.3	
	1960	183.3	69.1	18.4	15.4	22.6		197.6	2.1	0.8	Q.103
	1965	183.9	69.9	20.4	16.9	20.0		193.4	2.1	0.7	
	1970	174.3	59.3	26.4	49.0	11.6		163.6	2.7	—	
of which:											
Coal (m. tonnes)	1950	126.2	50.8	1.0	12.2	27.3		219.8	0.2	—	
	1955	149.1	55.3	1.1	11.9	29.9		225.2	0.2	—	
	1960	143.2	56.0	0.7	12.5	22.6		196.7	0.2	—	Q.107
	1965	135.5	51.4	0.4	11.4	19.8		190.5	0.2	—	
	1970	111.4	37.4	0.3	4.3	11.4		144.6	0.2	—	
Crude oil (m. tonnes c.e.)	1950	1.5	0.2	—	0.9	—		0.2	—	—	
	1955	4.1	1.2	0.4	1.3	—		0.2	—	—	
	1960	7.2	2.9	2.7	2.5	—		0.2	—	—	
	1965	10.2	4.3	3.0	3.1	—		0.1	—	—	
	1970	9.8	3.4	2.0	2.5	—		0.2	—	—	
Natural gas (m. tonnes c.e.)	1950	0.1	0.3	0.7	—	—		—	—	—	
	1955	0.5	0.4	4.8	0.2	0.1		—	—	—	
	1960	1.2	3.8	8.6	0.5	0.1		—	—	—	
	1965	4.5	6.7	10.4	2.4	0.1		0.3	—	—	
	1970	17.3	9.1	17.5	42.1	0.1		15.0	—	—	
Other sources (m. tonnes c.e.)	1950	24.4	3.1	3.2	0.1	—		0.8	—	0.3	
	1955	29.9	4.4	4.1	0.1	—		0.2	0.1	0.3	
	1960	31.7	6.4	6.4	—	—		0.6	1.9	0.8	
	1965	33.7	7.5	6.6	—	0.1		2.5	1.9	0.7	
	1970	35.7	9.4	6.6	0.1	0.1		3.8	2.5	—	
Energy consumption (m. tonnes c.e.)	1950	133.6	85.2	29.5	19.8	31.3		223.6	3.3	9.0	
	1955	177.9	93.8	34.7	25.6	37.5		254.9	3.8	11.1	
	1960	203.6	110.5	56.4	30.9	37.5		258.5	5.2	13.0	Q.104
	1965	250.3	144.8	92.7	42.3	46.3		279.4	6.5	19.5	
	1970	317.1	193.0	144.1	66.2	59.6		299.4	9.0	28.8	
Net imports of coal(a) (m. tonnes)	1950(b)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	1955	−5.6	4.9	10.3	6.5	−3.5	0.3	−2.6	1.8	5.1	
	1960	−11.2	8.7	9.7	4.7	1.6	0.2	−5.6	1.6	4.0	
	1965	−5.0	11.1	10.6	5.2	5.0	0.1	−3.8	1.3	3.6	Q.105
	1970	−6.0	12.6	12.6	3.5	7.0	0.1	−3.1	1.1	3.4	
Net imports of oil(c) (m. tonnes)	1950	2.6	10.3	4.2	2.5	2.0		14.6	0.5	1.6	
	1955	6.4	18.0	11.2	4.7	4.6		24.7	1.0	2.9	
	1960	25.0	25.4	19.6	8.6	6.9		44.1	1.1	4.8	Q.101
	1965	65.6	50.3	46.8	19.2	14.5		68.3	2.2	9.5	
	1970	115.7	93.6	83.5	29.5	26.1		95.7	3.7	17.6	
Solid fuel sas percentage (d) of total energy consumption	1950	93	72	34	80	91		91	69	72	
	1955	93	73	33	69	84		86	60	61	
	1960	79	62	20	51	76		76	69	44	
	1965	59	46	13	32	59		66	49	26	Q106
	1970	41	29	9	11	39		51	41	13	
Dependance on imported energy percentage(e)	1955	−17	28	46	33	10		—	82	99	
	1955	−4	34	68	41	13		11	90	105	
	1960	7	41	60	41	37		19	57	97	
	1965	30	55	73	61	59		31	63	93	Q.102
	1970	46	72	80	30	85		40	68	96	

(a) (Imports) − (Exports + bunkers).
(b) Not available for 1950 on a comparable basis.
(c) (Imports of crude oil and energy petroleum products) − (Exports of crude oil and energy petroleum products + bunkers).
(d) Figures for coal only are not available on a comparable basis for each country for each year.
(e) $\frac{\text{Imports} - (\text{exports} + \text{bunkers})}{\text{Inland consumption}} \times 100$

Imports, exports, bunkers and inland consumption are expressed in coal equivalent. A negative figure indicates net exports (as a percentage of inland consumption). A figure over 100 indicates a stock increase.
.. Not available.
— Nil or less than half the last digit shown.

Sources:
United Nations Statistical Papers, Series J: Numbers 1, 3, 8, 15 and 16. These papers do not give separate data for Belgium and Luxembourg. The basis of conversion for hydro electricity to coal equivalent was changed between Number 1 and 3, but the figures in these tables have been adjusted to a uniform basis for all years.
United Nations Statistical Yearbook, 1956 Edition.
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Statistics of Energy, 1971 and 1974 editions.
The figures for the UK take account of amendments since these publications were issued.

Parliament continued

Government assistance for industry

Mr. Sydney Irving (Dartford) asked how many companies applied to the Department of Industry financial assistance in 1974; and for a comparison with the numbers for 1972 and 1973.

Mr. Mackenzie answered as follows:

INDUSTRY ACT 1972 — Applications received

	1972	1973	1974
Part I (Regional Development Grants)	1,823	22,152	34,138
Part II (Selective Financial Assistance)			
Section 7	337	1,722	1,405
Section 8	25	13	26
Companies submitting applications			
Part III (Grants for the construction of ships and mobile offshore installations)	40	51	53

'I regret that separate information is not readily available on the number of companies applying as distinct from the number of applications received under Parts I and II of the Act,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'The totals under Part II Section 8 do not include applications received under the Wool Textile Industry Scheme and the North Sea Credit Scheme details of which were announced to the House on 19 July 1973 and 6 November 1973 respectively.'

OECD industrial production

Mr. Dafydd Thomas (Merioneth) wanted to know the average annual percentage growth in industrial production of each of the member states of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development during the periods 1948-58 and 1958-73, and at the latest date for which figures are available, respectively.

Mr. Meacher gave the following information:

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

	Annual average growth rate		Percentage change
	1948/58 %	1958/73 %	Jan.-June 1973/ Jan.-June 1974
Canada	5.2	6.2	4.5
United States	3.1	5.3	1.3
Japan	16.7	13.6	4.4
Australia	..	5.5	8.0
New Zealand	..	..	..
Austria	11.0	6.0	6.7
Belgium	2.6	5.1	9.6
Denmark	..	..	..
Finland	5.6	7.5	2.9
France	6.2	6.1	4.6
German FR	14.4	6.0	1.8
Greece*	..	..	1.4
Iceland	..	..	..
Ireland	4.1	7.0	3.3
Italy	8.5	7.4	12.3
Luxembourg	2.9	3.4	7.5
Netherlands	6.5	7.8	6.9
Norway	5.6	5.4	6.3
Portugal	..	7.4	..
Spain	..	10.3	14.6
Sweden	3.0	5.8	7.7
Switzerland	..	5.2	3.7
Turkey	..	..	..
United Kingdom	3.1	3.3	−2.7

.. Not available.
* Figures are not available for Greece earlier than 1962.
Sources:
1948 – United Nations Statistical Yearbook.
1958/74 – OECD Main Economic Indicators.

Hydrogen peroxide

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked whether the principle of using hydrogen peroxide in torpedo turbines as utilised by the Royal Navy has been adopted for any industrial propulsion unit.

'I am not aware of any attempt to use hydrogen peroxide as a source of energy in any industrial propulsion unit.' said Mr. Meacher. 'It is a very expensive substance in energy terms and very dangerous to handle.'

Metallurgists in Wales

An estimate of the overall shortage of skilled metallurgists was asked for by Mr. Roy Hughes (Newport), who also wanted information about the extent of the shortage in Wales.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The latest information available is from the Professional and Executive Recruitment Service and relates to the end of November 1974. For Great Britain there were 349 candidates registered as metallurgists of which 115 were unemployed; the corresponding number of unfilled vacancies notified was 113. For Wales the corresponding figures were 32 candidates of which eight were unemployed and unfilled vacancies notified were five.'

Offshore Supplies Office

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) inquired about the location of the central registry of the Offshore Supplies Office; and the proportion of files held, respectively, by the Scottish and London offices of the Offshore Supplies Office.

Mr. Smith answered: 'The Central Registry of the Offshore Supplies Office is located at its headquarters in Glasgow. Close liaison is maintained between this registry and the sub-registry at the London office. Files are held in Glasgow and in London as convenient to the pattern of work. There is a common file system for the whole organisation and files are available for use and reference at each location when required.'

Wednesday, 29 January

Imports of textiles, etc.

Mr. John Watkinson (West Gloucestershire) asked: 'What is the current level of imports of textiles, garments and footwear from COMECON countries and the Far East?'

Mr. Deakins gave the following information for January-November 1974:

£ thousand cif

	COMECON countries	Far East*
Textiles	13,021	83,571
Garments	10,262	160,742
Footwear	11,081	14,649

* Japan, China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, North Korea and Republic of Korea.

Oil and petroleum imports from EEC

Information was sought by Mr. Douglas Hurd (Mid-Oxon) on the value of imports into the UK from EEC countries of oil and petroleum products during 1973 and 1974; and the proportion these imports formed of our total trade deficit with these countries in each year.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'In 1973 the value of imports of petroleum and petroleum products (Division 33 of the Standard International Trade Classification (Revised)) from the EEC was £233 million, on a balance of payments basis; in 1974 the corresponding figure is provisionally estimated at £630 million. These imports accounted for one-fifth of the total visible trade deficit with the EEC in 1973 and, provisionally, for nearly one third in 1974.'

UK trade deficits

Mr. Blaker asked for figures showing the breakdown of the UK's trade deficit with the EEC for 1974 by sector and comparable figures for 1973 for each sector.

'An analysis of the crude trade deficit can be obtained from the figures of imports cif and exports fob in Tables II and V, respectively, in the December 1974 issue of the monthly Overseas Trade Statistics (an advance copy of which is available in the House of Commons Library), said Mr. Deakins. 'Similar information for 1973 may be obtained from the December 1973 issue of the Overseas Trade Statistics. The crude trade deficit – the difference between imports cif and exports fob – is not a good measure of the trade in goods because, inter alia, of differences in valuation; however, commodity figures of trade are not available on a balance of payments basis.'

'What was the percentage increase in our non-oil trade deficit and our total trade deficit with the EEC and with the rest of the world, respectively, between 1973 and 1974?' asked Mr. Blaker.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'It is provisionally estimated that our trade deficit, on a balance of payments basis, with the EEC in non-oil goods and in total trade rose by about 70 per cent and 80 per cent, respectively, between 1973 and 1974. For the rest of the world our total trade deficit is provisionally estimated to have increased by about 160 per cent over the same period. It is not possible to calculate a corresponding percentage increase for non-oil trade since the balance of this trade with the rest of the world is estimated to have moved from a deficit of £336 million in 1973 to a surplus of around £120 million in 1974.'

Mr. Blaker asked also for figures on the percentage increase in our total trade deficit between 1973 and 1974 with the other eight EEC countries, EFTA, the Commonwealth, the USA and the rest of the world, respectively.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'Percentage changes between 1973 and 1974 in the "crude" trade deficits with the areas given in the question are as follows: +90, +21, −11, +397, +202.'

Origin marking of imported shoes

Mrs. Maureen Colquhoun (Northampton North) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if she is satisfied with the operation of the Trades Description Act in view of the widespread practice of stamping imported shoes with the names of British firms.

'The Trade Descriptions Act, 1972, requires origin marking for all imported goods to which a UK name or mark is applied,' said Mr. Williams. 'Any evidence that the Act is being contravened should be brought to the attention of local Weights and Measures authorities who enforce the Act.'

Thursday, 30 January

EC studies on redundant steelworkers

Mr. Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would publish all the correspondence relating to the three European Commission studies concerning redundant steelworkers and mineworkers in South Wales.

Mr. Benn said: 'I assume the three studies to which my Hon, Friend refers are:

a A project put forward by Professor George of the University College, Cardiff, for a study of the employment problems in South Wales;

b A study of the effectiveness of measures to assist redundant steelworkers; proposed by the British Steel Corporation; and

c A study of the effects on the local labour market of moving a government office to South Wales; proposed by the Department of Employment.

'Only two of these studies, a and b, are the concern of my Department. Both projects were suggested by my Officials in discussions with officials of the EEC as studies which might be jointly sponsored. There has been no correspondence between my Department and the Commission on these particular studies. I have already published my letter to the Wales TUC concerning Professor George's project.'

EEC energy policy

Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) asked the Secretary of State for Energy, when he next expects to discuss energy policy with EEC Ministers.

'At the next EEC Council of Energy Ministers on 13 February,' said Mr. Varley.

Offshore Supplies Office

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) inquired about training facilities being initiated by the Offshore Supplies Office to provide skilled jobs for Scots for the development of Scottish oil resources.

'The Offshore Supplies Office does not itself initiate such facilities,' said Mr. Smith. 'It does, however, actively support the initiative taken by the Training Services Agency for the setting up of the Drilling Technology Centre in Livingston and that by the Manpower Services Commission to set up an underwater training centre, in the Fort William area on Loch Linnhe, to meet the long term training needs of divers engaged in the offshore oil and gas development programme. Both schemes will provide opportunities for Scots in the development of the oil and gas resources. My Department has also agreed to provide £300,000 to help Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, to set up a Petroleum Engineering Centre. The Centre will provide postgraduate and post industrial experience courses in petroleum engineering.'

Mr. Wilson also asked which recommendations of the IMEG report are being implemented by the Offshore Supplies Office; and which are not.

'I will send the Hon, Member a copy of the memorandum submitted last year by my Department to the Select Committee on Science and Technology during the course of its inquiry into sea-bed engineering,' said Mr. Smith. 'This memorandum together with other memoranda submitted as evidence to the Select Committee will be published in due course as HC 266.'

Mr. Wilson also asked what studies have been commissioned by the Department of Energy at the Offshore Supplies Office into the industrial benefits and application which can be gained by the Scottish engineering industry from the development of Scotland's offshore oil resources.

Mr. Smith replied: 'None. The relocation of the Headquarters of the Offshore Supplies Office (OSO) in Glasgow has, however, improved the service which the OSO is able to provide for the Scottish engineering industry.

'A major study of the impact of oil related work on the Scottish economy including the engineering industry is being carried out by the Department of Industry's Office for Scotland. The study has been commissioned by the Oil Task Force on which are represented the OSO, the Scottish Office and the Department of Industry. An article on the study will appear in the next issue of the *Scottish Economic Bulletin*. Additionally, the OSO is represented on the Steering Committee that controls studies into the onshore impact of North Sea oil which have been commissioned by the Scottish Economic Planning Department.'

'How many Scottish companies have established a presence in offshore oil markets worldwide as a direct result of initiatives of the Offshore Supplies Office since its inception?' asked Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Smith said: 'The Offshore Supplies Office provides help, advice and encouragement to forward-looking British firms who wish, either on their own or in partnership with others, to establish themselves in the offshore petroleum market. Provided they are ready to work hard at it, there is no reason why a considerable number of British firms, including Scottish ones, should not be successful either in entering this market or in expanding British capabilities that already exist in it. The part played in this process by the Offshore Supplies Office is not precisely quantifiable, but I believe that it is important and worthwhile.'

Imports of bananas

Mr. Stanley Newens (Harlow) inquired about the quantities of bananas imported from the West Indies and other former British colonies, and the former French colonies, respectively, for each year since 1970

Mr. Deakins gave the following figures for fresh bananas:

'000 tons

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 Jan.-Nov.
Former British colonies (including those in the West Indies) *	280.6	241.6	231.3	203.8	160.1
Former French colonies	19.8	29.3	30.8	24.1	22.2

* Imports other than from the West Indies were negligible in these years.

Textile exports

Mr. George Rodgers (Chorley) asked for figures showing the total volume and value of the export of textiles from the United Kingdom during the last recorded 12-months period, and for the previous similar period.

Mr. Deakins said that available information is published under SITC(R) headings 262.8, 266 and 651 to 657 in Table VI of the 1973 and 1974 December issues of the monthly Overseas Trade Statistics.

Mr. Rodgers also asked for figures showing United Kingdom exports of textiles to Japan and to the USA during the most recent available 12 month period, and the figures for the previous 12 months.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information:

£ million fob

	12 months ended November 1973	12 months ended November 1974
USA	47.8	33.7
Japan	37.3	45.4

Vessels missing at sea

Mr. Terence L. Higgins (Worthing) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade has any proposals to require higher standards of radio equipment in fishing vessels to reduce the number of occasions when a fishing vessel is believed missing because of a breakdown in communications and to minimise the strain on rescue services.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The new Radio Rules for fishing vessels (SI 1974 No. 1919) which came into operation on 1 January 1975 will require a considerably higher standard of radio installation in fishing vessels, including a new provision for reserve equipment to be carried by fishing vessels of 24.4 metres and over in length. Transitional periods are allowed under the rules for the installation of new equipment but it is hoped that implementation of the rules will result in a reduction of breakdowns in fishing vessel communications.'

Mr. Higgins asked if it is Government policy not to employ aircraft to search for missing vessels at sea if a number of surface vessels are already doing so.

'No.' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'Each case is decided on its merits. The factors taken into account include the visibility and weather conditions in the search area, the possibility of a false alarm, and the extent to which the

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use of an aircraft would significantly increase the chances of finding the missing vessel.'

Missing trawler 'Morena'

Mr. Higgins and Mr. James Johnson inquired about the missing trawler Morena.

Mr. Clinton Davis's reply is given on page 287.

Commission of the EEC

Mr. Richard Body (Holland with Boston) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to list the occasions on which he has had to consult the Commission of the EEC, in accordance with Community law or practice, before making a decision as to the policy of Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Benn's answer is published on page 332 of this issue.

Trade with EEC

Mr. Spearing asked for information on the approximate amount of United Kingdom capital investment in the original six member states of the EEC for each of the years 1970 to 1974, indicating where practicable the categories of enterprise including productive industry.

'The information available is given in the table below', Mr. Deakins said: 'It relates to UK direct investment net of disinvestment; portfolio, oil and miscellaneous investment (including other investment in real estate) are not covered. UK direct investment is the total investment by UK companies in their overseas branches, subsidiaries and associates, including reinvested profits; separate information is not available on the investment in fixed assets of these overseas affiliates. Corresponding information relating to 1973 will be published in this year's Business Monitor, M4, Overseas Transactions.

A table was asked for by Mr. Spearing to show the approximate proportions of the major imported foodstuffs originating from the original six members of the EEC, Denmark and Eire, and the rest of the world, respectively, for the years 1970 to 1974.

Mr. Deakins gave percentages, by value, consigned from the three areas as table below.

Mr. Spearing also asked for tables showing the changes in the level and balance of trade between the United Kingdom and the six original members of the EEC identifying where practicable those items where any significant changes have occured, between the years 1970 and 1974, and showing similar information in respect of the United Kingdom and Denmark and Eire.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'There is no commodity analysis of trade on a balance of payments basis, and it is therefore necessary to use information on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis. For 1970, information at Division level relating to imports is published in Table 1 of Volume 1 of the *Annual Statement of Overseas Trade*; corresponding information relating to exports may be found in Table III of that publication. Similar data for 1974 is provided in Tables II and V of the monthly Overseas Trade Statistics for December 1974.'

SITC(R)	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
DIVISION					
01 – Meat and meat preparations					
EEC (six)	6	7	6	9	12
Denmark and Eire	40	41	36	34	47
Rest of world	54	52	58	57	42
02 – Dairy products and eggs					
EEC (six)	9	13	12	26	46
Denmark and Eire	31	28	30	39	37
Rest of world	59	58	58	35	17
03 – Fish and fish preparations					
EEC (six)	5	6	6	8	10
Denmark and Eire	11	11	11	12	14
Rest of world	83	83	82	80	77
04 – Cereal and cereal preparations					
EEC (six)	18	19	22	39	60
Denmark and Eire	1	1	2	3	3
Rest of world	81	80	77	58	47
05 – Fruit and vegetables					
EEC (six)	19	19	20	20	22
Denmark and Eire	2	2	2	1	1
Rest of world	80	80	78	79	77
06 – Sugar, sugar preparations and honey					
EEC (six)	6	3	3	6	18
Denmark and Eire	1	1	2	2	4
Rest of world	93	95	95	92	78
07 – Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof					
EEC (six)	6	6	7	11	15
Denmark and Eire	4	4	6	5	6
Rest of world	90	90	87	84	79
08 – Feeding stuffs for animals (excluding unmilled cereals)					
EEC (six)	9	12	12	12	16
Denmark and Eire	12	16	20	18	20
Rest of world	79	72	68	71	65
09 – Miscellaneous food preparations					
EEC (six)	27	32	44	48	50
Denmark and Eire	8	9	10	10	12
Rest of world	66	59	46	41	38

Note:
In some cases the figures do not add to 100 because they have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

UK DIRECT INVESTMENT (1) IN THE ORIGINAL SIX MEMBER STATES OF THE EEC

£ million

	1970	1971	1972
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.1	0.2	0.7
Mining and quarrying	..	—	−0.1
Mechanical engineering and instrument engineering	7.4 (2)	9.2 (2)	23.8
Electrical engineering			6.7
Shipbuilding and vehicles (excluding motors)			−0.5
Motor vehicle manufacture	..	14.1 (2)	8.3
Food, drink and tobacco			33.9
Chemical and allied industries			16.4
Metal manufacture			0.3
Textiles, leather clothing and footwear	54.0 (2)	148.1 (2)	3.8
Paper, printing and publishing			3.1
Rubber			−0.2
Other manufacture			12.4
Construction	1.2	0.3	4.4
Transport and communications other than shipping	1.5	1.9	7.3
Shipping	0.8	1.6	0.1
Distributive trades	18.6	39.8	75.1
Other financial institutions	−6.2	−2.9	0.4
Property owning and managing	0.2 (2)	50.2 (2)	−7.8
Other activities			34.0
Total	77.8 (3)	262.5 (3)	222.4 (3)

(1) Excluding oil.
(2) Figures for industries bracketed together were not compiled separately for 1970 and 1971.
(3) Compounds do not necessarily add to totals because each figure has been rounded independently; also, for 1970, figures not shown separately are included in the total.
— Nil or less than £50,000.
.. Figures cannot be shown separately because information about individual firms would be disclosed.

Nationalisation

Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) inquired about the Secretary of State for Industry's plans for taking back into public ownership those firms 'hived-off' by the previous Government.

Mr. Benn replied: 'As my Hon. Friend will know, our Manifesto stated our intentions in this matter. I have made it clear to the nationalised industries for which I have responsibility that I will consider sympathetically proposals for their expansion and diversification.'

Nationalisation of aircraft companies

Mr. John Cope (South Gloucestershire) asked the Secretary of State for Industry: 'If he will specify which categories of information which would be

Letters to the Editor

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required by the Stock Exchange and Take Over Panel in the case of a board of directors recommending the purchase of another company to shareholders, he intends not to publish before introducing legislation for the purchase out of public funds of certain aircraft companies?'

Mr. Meacher replied: 'No. The purpose of the City Code is to defend the interests of shareholders in exercising their choice between accepting or rejecting a takeover bid. In the case of compulsory acquisition, it is Parliament which has to be satisfied that fair compensation will be paid to the shareholders. Therefore provision to acquire any information necessary to assess fair compensation will be included in the legislative programmes to be brought before Parliament as soon as possible.'

Government assistance to industry

Mr. Kilroy-Silk asked if the Secretary of State for Industry is in a position to announce the amount of public money given to the top 25 firms.

Mr. Heffer replied: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Industry gave details of the amount of Government grants paid to 10 leading companies in the years 1970 to 1973 in answer to a Question from my Hon. Friend the Member for Dumbartonshire Central on 29 July 1974. Equivalent information on a further 10 companies was released by my Department in a press notice on 12 September 1974. The attached table provides information of the amounts paid to all 20 companies. The Secretary of State also announced in reply to a Question from my Hon. Friend the Member for Bolsover on 31 July 1974 our intention to institute a system of regular quarterly publication of payments of Regional Development Grants and offers of selective financial assistance to individual firms and establishments. The first of these quarterly lists will be published in the first half of this year.'

Alfred Herbert Ltd.

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) asked the Secretary of State for Industry: 'What is the difference of view between the Industrial Development Advisory Board and his department over Alfred Herbert Ltd., referred to in the House by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary in his department on 23 January?'

Mr. Benn said: 'The Board and I recognised that the business should be placed on a sound and continuing basis. The Board recommended that this was best achieved through allowing the company to go into receivership. I took the view that this was not the best course.'

Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co. Ltd.

Mr. Stanley asked for the names of the directors of the Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co. Ltd. and their respective responsibilities.

'The directors of Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Ltd. at present are Mr. J. Spriggs and Mr. R. Jenkins,' said Mr. Heffer. 'They have no executive responsibilities. It is expected that other directors will be appointed in due course.'

Mr. Stanley also asked for details of the present issued share capital of the Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co. Ltd.; and for a list of the shareholders and their respective shareholdings.

'The authorised share capital of Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Ltd., as shown in the Memorandum and Articles of Association deposited at the Companies Registration Office is 5,000 shares of £1 each,' said Mr. Heffer. 'Two shares have so far been issued, one each to Mr. J. Spriggs and Mr. R. Jenkins, who are also directors. I understand that further shares will be issued when the constitution of the Co-operative is finally settled.'

Mr. Stanley inquired how much of the grant of £3.9 million to Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co. Ltd. was paid on 15 January; and on what dates and in what amounts the balance is expected to be paid.

Mr. Heffer said that the payment on 15 January was for an amount sufficient to cover the purchase of the assets, advance rental and an initial instalment of working capital. 'The timing of further payments is determined by proof of need,' said Mr. Heffer. 'I do not propose to publish details of individual payments, since it is not the practice to disclose the instalments by which assistance offered under the Industry Act is paid.'

Mr. Stanley asked whether the Department of Industry will be deemed a prime creditor in the event of the Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co. Ltd. going into liquidation.

Mr. Heffer replied: 'As was made clear in the statement laid before the House on 20 December, the grant becomes repayable if the Co-operative fails. This debt would rank behind other creditors.'

Mr. Stanley also asked if a copy of the formal agreement completed with the Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co. Ltd. would be placed in the Library.

Mr. Heffer said: 'No. It is not the practice to publish agreements with companies seeking selective assistance. Exceptionally, the main terms and conditions of the Agreement with Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Ltd. were described in the statement which was laid before the House on 20 December 1974.'

'How many people were employed by the Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co. Ltd. on 15 January 1975?' asked Mr. Stanley.

'As in the case of any company receiving Industry Act assistance this information has been given to my Department on a confidential basis,' said Mr. Heffer.

Nationalised industries

Mr. Kenneth Warren (Hastings) asked for a list of the number of employees of each of the nationalised industries for which the Secretary of State for Industry is responsible on its vesting date and the numbers since made redundant in each of these industries.

Mr. MacKenzie gave information as follows:

	Number of employees on vesting date	Number made redundant to 31 December 1974
Post Office (part-time employees counted as half)	405,212	400*
British Steel Corporation	257,000	22,530

* Estimated – precise figure is not readily available.

Typewriter production

Mr. John Prescott (Kingston-upon-Hull East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to conduct an inquiry into the potential of possible domestic typewriter production, and the UK capacity to meet the demand.

'We are currently examining this possibility,' said Mr. Meacher.

Industrial production

Mr. Ralph Howell (North Norfolk) inquired about the expected growth in industrial production in 1975; and the growth in 1973 and 1974.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The index of industrial production rose by 7¼ per cent in 1973 compared with 1972. Estimates are not yet available for December 1974 but it seems

GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO 20 LEADING COMPANIES: 1970-73 £000

Company Group	1970	1971	1972	1973	Total
Allied Breweries	730	680	380	310	2,100
Bass Charrington	550	560	430	2,550	4,090
Bowater (iii)	2,300	1,770	300	480	4,840
BICC	3,050	1,920	400	1,180	6,550
BLMC	8,250	7,930	2,520	820	19,520
Courtaulds	9,540	10,460	5,590	3,350	28,940
Esso	6,390	5,980	9,420	9,500	31,290
Fords	3,530	8,510	2,860	1,810	16,710
Gallaher (iii)	290	340	180	80	890
GEC	3,700	3,050	2,030	1,230	10,010
GKN	2,330	3,120	1,630	1,150	8,230
Grand Metropolitan	430	440	340	1,420	2,630
ICI	27,770	26,090	7,840	13,040	74,730
Imperial Group	1,880	1,650	870	770	5,180
Rank Hovis McDougall	1,250	880	290	130	2,550
Reed International	1,110	1,590	1,320	440	4,460
Sears Holdings	370	320	250	140	1,080
Tate and Lyle	900	680	2,720	1,040	5,350
Unigate	900	870	270	160	2,190
Unilever	4,010	3,480	1,230	640	9,360
Totals	79,290	80,330	40,860	40,240	240,700

(i) The figures, which relate to calendar years, are given correct to the nearest £10,000. They are individually rounded and may not therefore add up exactly to the totals shown.

(ii) Kinds of Grants considered

Investment Grants
Regional Development Grants
Local Employment Acts:
- Building Grants
- Plant and Machinery Grants
- Operational Grants
- Removal Grants

Industry Act 1972, Sections 7 and 8:
- Interest Relief Grants
- Removal Grants
- Grants under Section 8

Shipbuilding Industry Board Grants
Construction grants for ships (Industry Act 1972 s.11)
Any grants under special schemes of assistance to shipyards
Grants under the Hotel Development Incentive Scheme

(iii) The figures for Bowater and Gallaher have been provided by the companies themselves. The basis of the Department's calculations was explained to the companies, who had expressed their willingness to help in this matter, and the results are broadly consistent with the Department's figures.

likely that the index will have fallen by about 2½ per cent in 1974, partly because of three-day working. Allowing for stock changes is unlikely to affect either of these. Several factors, including the uncertain state of world demand, will influence industrial production in 1975 and I cannot say what level is now expected.'

HS146

Mr. Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what discussions he has had since 17 December with Hawker-Siddeley Aviation Ltd. about the terms on which Government finance might be made available to continue the design capability of the HS146 project team.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'Officials of my Department have been in touch with both the management of Hawker Siddeley Aviation and the trade unions about further action on the HS146. The precise terms on which Government funding might be made available cannot be determined until the Tripartite Working Group has examined the possible methods of keeping the project in being.'

Mr. Corbett also asked by what dates the report of the Tripartite Working Group on the Hawker Siddeley HS146 project was expected, when it is expected to start work; and if its members can be named.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The membership of the Tripartite Working Group will be drawn from the trade unions, the management of Hawker Siddeley Aviation, and Government officials. It is intended that it should operate informally and without a rigid pre-determined membership, though there is agreement that the numbers should be limited. Papers have already been submitted by the company and the unions and details are being finalised for an early meeting. In keeping with the group's informal character it might decide that a formal written report to my Rt. Hon. Friend would be unnecessary.'

Aerospace projects

Mr. Warren asked which new aerospace projects have been sponsored by the Department of Industry in whole, or in part, since 1 March 1974 in the factories of BAC, HSA or HSD.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'No new major projects have been sponsored by my Department since 1 March, though the Government have continued to make payments in connection with the Concorde, Trident, and HS146 projects and we have placed a number of contracts for other items of work in the aerospace sector.'

Mr. Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked for the names of those outside the Civil Service employed or retained to advise the Secretary of State for Industry on matters concerned with the aerospace industry together with their qualifications.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'A small number of firms and individuals outside the Civil Service are paid to advise my Rt. Hon. Friend on these matters but he has also received views and helpful advice from a great many people, for example in response to the consultation document on aircraft industry nationalisation.'

Mr. Tebbit also asked how many of the civil servants in the Department of Industry concerned with the aerospace industry have had experience of working in that industry and technical qualifications relevant to the work of that industry.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'Within the Department of Industry there are about 45 civil servants advising on matters concerned with the aerospace construction industry who have technical qualifications relevant to the work of that industry. One-third of these have been directly employed within the industry at some time in their careers. Under the arrangements set up in 1971 the responsibility for detailed technical assessments and advice to the Department of Industry on aersopace matters fall largely to the Procurement Executive of the Ministry of Defence.'

Waste paper

Mr. Colin Shepherd (Hereford) asked what steps are being taken to ensure that there is a continuing market for the sale of waste paper collected by charities.

'This is one of the central matters being urgently considered by the Advisory Group on Waste Paper Recycling under my chairmanship,' said Mr. Meacher. 'Meanwhile, I have told representatives of the paper industry that I will certainly give urgent consideration to any application they may make for assistance with increased stockpiling of waste paper which is consistent with the requirements of Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972. So far I have received no such application.'

Mr. Sydney Irving (Dartford) also asked about proposals for assistance to the paper and board industry to finance stocks of waste paper in order to enable it to overcome the problem caused by cyclical fluctuations in demand.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The Advisory Group on Waste Paper Recycling, which I chair is at present urgently studying alternative methods of stabilising the waste paper market in the future. In the meantime, I have told representatives of the paper and board industry that I will give urgent consideration to any application for assistance with increased stockpiling made to me under existing legislation. So far I have received no such application.'

Offshore installations

Mr. Skeet inquired about the type or description of the offshore installations which have attracted loans or grants under Section 10 of the Industry Act 1972, their location, the number of companies involved and the highest total granted to any one company.

Mr. Heffer replied: 'Under Section 10 of the Industry Act 1972, my Rt. Hon. Friend has no power to make grants or loans directly for the construction of ships or mobile offshore installations, but he has power to guarantee loans made by others. Since the Act became law, guarantees have been given or offered in respect of one jack-up rig, two dynamically positioned drill ships and one other vessel which can be used for various purposes including drilling. None of these has yet been completed. Four companies are involved; the highest amount guaranteed for any one company is approximately £20 million.'

Mr. Skeet also asked how much of the £1,000 million provided for purposes under Section 10 of the

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1974, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

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HMSO BOOKS

Name and address with cable

British firms cabling an overseas organisation for the first time should ensure that they include their name and full postal address. There is no comprehensive directory of cable addresses, and commercial departments in British embassies are often unable to help local firms who ask them to trace British firms from their cable address.

Industry Act 1972 has been allocated for mobile offshore installations.

'There is no specific allocation but it is estimated that of the £1,000 million which my Rt. Hon. Friend has power to guarantee, some £50 million will relate to mobile offshore installations and drill ships,' said Mr. Heffer.

Concorde

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) asked if the Concorde aircraft offered to Japan Air Lines and Iran Air, respectively, are identical in specification and cost to those ordered by British Airways and Air France.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'Negotiations with Iran Air concern aircraft to the same basic standard as those ordered by British Airways and Air France; the detailed specification is a matter for negotiation in the light of any particular customer requirements. Negotiations on price must also take account of modifications requested by the customer as well as changes in the general level of prices. The manufacturers are having discussions with Japan Air Lines following the extension of that airline's options but there are at present no detailed negotiations on price or specification.'

North Sea oil

Mr. Max Madden (Sowerby) asked about the number of rigs currently exploring for oil and gas in the North Sea, the number in operation in January in each of the past seven years, and the total number in each of the past seven years on an annual basis.

Mr. Smith said that 29 mobile drilling platforms are operating on the whole of the UK sector of the North Sea. He gave the following table showing the numbers of platforms operating during the years 1968-74:

Year	Number of platforms operating	
	January	Over the year
1968	9	13
1969	6	14
1970	7	12
1971	4	13
1972	6	21
1973	10	25
1974	18	37

Mr. Madden also asked how many exploration licences, awarded for the exploration of oil and gas in the North Sea, have been given up by the holders since such licences were first awarded, to date.

Of the 109 Exploration Licences granted since licensing began in 1964, 61 have run the full term of three years and have now expired, a further 12 have been surrendered before due date,' said Mr. Smith.

Mr. Skeet (Bedford) asked how many of the 27 drilling rigs operating in the North Sea are engaged on drilling exploratory and development wells, and how many rigs are engaged in exploratory drilling in the south North Sea basin.

Mr. Smith replied: 'All of the 27 mobile drilling platforms operating in the UK sector of the northern North Sea are engaged in exploratory operations; development drilling is usually carried out from permanent drilling platforms. Two mobile drilling platforms are currently carrying out exploratory drilling in the southern basin.'

Friday, 31 January

Government shares in industrial firms

Mr. Viggers asked for a list of all the companies the Government has taken shares in since 1 March 1974, showing what has happened to the value of the shares in each case and the number of days lost through industrial disputes in each company since that date.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'The companies which the Government has taken shares in since 1 March 1974 are:

Kearney and Trecker Marwin Machine Tools (Holdings) Ltd.
Brown Boveri Kent Ltd.
Scientific and Medical Instruments Ltd.
The Court Line Shipbuilding, Shiprepairing and Marine Engineering Companies.

'Of these, the only company whose shares are quoted is Brown Boveri Kent Ltd. The Government acquired the shares in November 1974 through a rearrangement of its previous holding in the George Kent Group. Stock Exchange dealings began in December 1974 at 10p per share. The share price was 13p on 29 January 1975.

'It is not the Government's practice to publish statistics of stoppage of work due to industrial disputes naming individual companies.'

Ben Sherman Group

Mr. Tom Normanton (Cheadle) asked the Secretary of State for Industry: 'What action he proposes to take to enable British firms engaged in manufacturing shirts to stay in business in view of the Government's take over of the Ben Sherman Group?'

'Because of the exceptional nature of their problems, the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce is trying to preserve employment in the Ben Sherman Group,' answered Mr. Meacher. 'These efforts have no direct relevance to the position of other manufacturers. As regards the shirt industry in general, the Government is aware of its difficulties, particularly the high level of import penetration. We have told our Community partners that, where there is justification in terms of the GATT Multi Fibre Arrangement, we are prepared to join with the Community in seeking restraints on knitwear and in extending our existing restraints on garments of cotton and polyester cotton to include other fibres and these restraints will have a direct relevance to shirts. The relevant EEC mandates for negotiations with Hong Kong, and South Korea and for autonomous action in the case of Taiwan are currently under discussion in Brussels.'

Supply of arms to South Africa

Mr. Frank Allaun (Salford East) asked if licences have been granted for the supply of arms or military spare parts to South Africa.

Mr. Shore answered: 'Applications for export licences are dealt with only in accordance with the policy stated on 4 December by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.'

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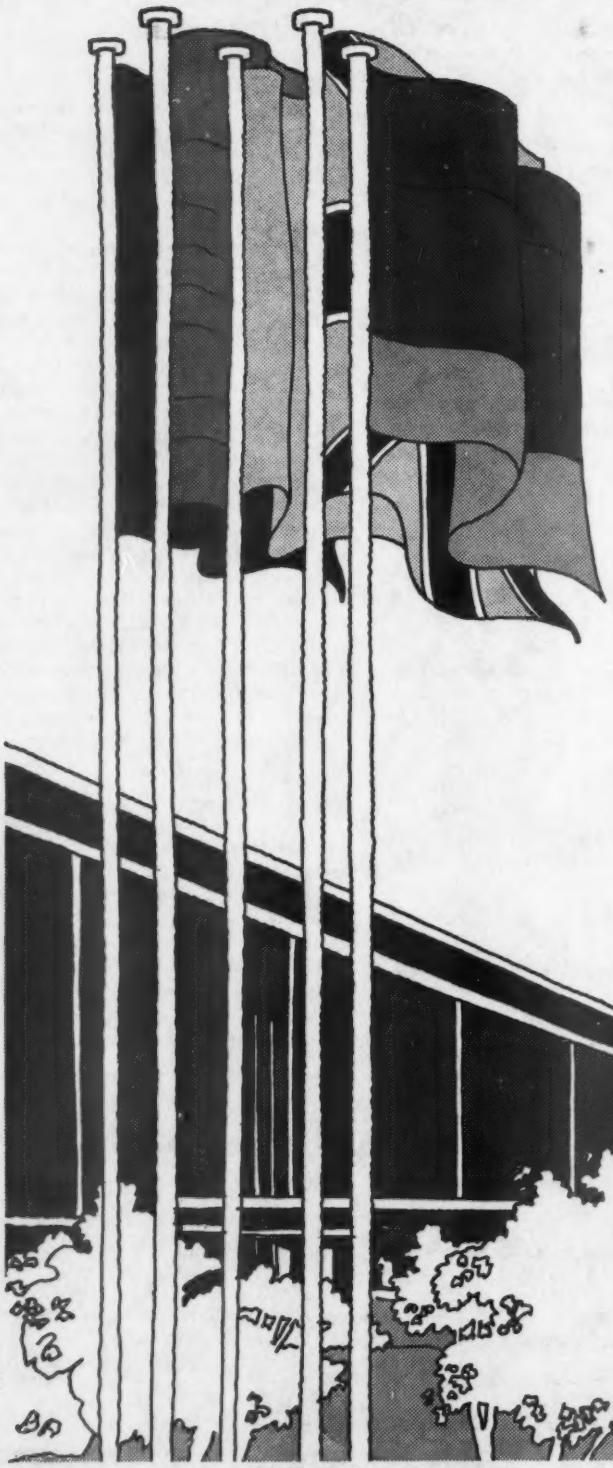

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Inter-city express trains link Birmingham with London every hour. Fast rail links with the Midlands, Wales and the North. London is less than 60 minutes by helicopter to the centre from Birmingham's city centre heliport situated next to the Centre.

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BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

Papua New Guinea

by Gordon Slater, First Secretary, British Commission, Port Moresby

Despite the efforts of an able press corps in Port Moresby, much of what is published about Papua New Guinea in the world's newspapers is oriented towards tribal clashes and the Stone Age, but, as visiting British businessmen have found out for themselves, it all looks vastly different behind the headlines. That is not to say that there are no tribal fights or, for that matter, that the businessman travelling in this spectacular country will not still come across tribesmen clad in what is unblushingly described in Pidgin English as arsegrass. But the commercially-minded visitor to Papua New Guinea will also find much else to interest him in the way of business opportunities.

Papua New Guinea became self-governing on 1 December 1973, and is expected to achieve Independence on a 1975 date yet to be named. It has an area of 178,260 square miles and a population of about 2,600,000 compared with Britain's 89,038 square miles and 56 million people. This fast-developing country is not of course without its problems but it is becoming increasingly clear that these are more than counter-balanced by rich resources.

Exported primary commodities including copra, cocoa, coffee, tea, rubber, timber and marine products, used to be the basis of the country's monetary economy, but minerals have now far surpassed them in market value. The massive Bougainville Copper Ltd. (BCL) project at Panguna (Southern Bougainville) began operations only on 1 April 1972, yet in the financial year ended 30 June 1973 the value of copper and precious metals produced by Papua New Guinea was estimated at $177 million compared with $69 million for agricultural products, $19 million for forestry, and $6 million for marine products. (Throughout this article dollars are Australian unless otherwise indicated.) Because of high copper prices (they have since fallen) the value of BCL's output subsequently rose yet more steeply, and, largely because of this, Papua New Guinea's exports rose from $230 million in 1972-73 to $487 million in 1973-74. With commodity prices at a high level, Papua New Guinea's traditional exports (important because the agricultural sector continues to provide the main source of income for the majority of Papua New Guineans) also did well in this same period. But it was copper and gold which brought in the real money – little wonder, therefore, that the Papua New Guinea Government look to their minerals for economic independence.

BCL could be just the tip of the iceberg. Scattered throughout Papua New Guinea are nine other known copper prospects. Tests are as yet incomplete, but already several of the sites are promising and ore at one is said to be 30 per cent copper compared with BCL's less than ½ per cent. In the Musa River area of the Northern District there has also been some prospecting for nickel. Simultaneously, the search for oil and gas continues at seven different sites in the Gulf District, Western District, Milne Bay District and in the Sepik area. Oil results so far have not been too encouraging, but some gas has been found and hopes of worthwhile deposits are high.

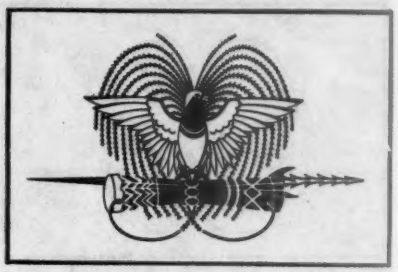
Most of these prospects are in more rugged and inaccessible country than BCL, though even there the company had to put in a 17-mile mountain road costing $1 million a mile, and spent altogether some $400 million establishing the mine. Where is the capital coming from to work these other deposits?

Attitude to overseas investment

The Papua New Guinea Government have repeatedly acknowledged that their country desires and needs overseas investment. However, with the growth of nationalism their attitude has hardened, particularly towards multinational corporations but also towards overseas investment generally. The Chief Minister, Mr. Michael Somare, has said the Government will make sure that resources are exploited in a

An everyday picture in the Gazelle Peninsula, East New Britain – picking cocoa.

growing opportunities for British business



way that contributes to Papua New Guinea's own goals and needs, that the Government will keep control of how resources are developed, and that there will be increasing emphasis on taxation of resource projects so that the benefits can be redistributed to the people through Government projects. The stock exchanges reflected increasing caution on the part of investors in companies like BCL, and some other companies appeared less than eager to continue pouring money into prospecting for new or testing known deposits. Potential investors watched with some anxiety as BCL and the Papua New Guinea Government engaged in what many regarded as a test case, the negotiations for the amendment of the original Bougainville Copper agreement. The low point in these negotiations came on 23 August 1974 when Mr. Somare, speaking in the House of Assembly in Port Moresby, implied that if the next round of talks failed to reach agreement the Government would go ahead and write their own terms. In the event, the final round of talks was nothing if not tough (the upshot was an extra $55 million in 1974 for the Papua New Guinea Government). But the most important fact about the outcome was that it represented an agreement for the variation of the 1967 Bougainville Copper agreement, not a unilateral declaration, and news of the settlement was on the whole welcomed both by mining companies operating in Papua New Guinea and by potential investors abroad. They took it as evidence that though the Papua New Guinea Government could and would drive a hard bargain, it was nevertheless a government that they could hope to do business with. Shortly after the agreement Kennecott began discussions with the Papua New Guinea Government on a $4-7 million programme for further testing of the Ok Tedi and Tifalmin copper ore bodies in the Western District to bring Kennecott's total expenditure there to about $20 million. But by early November these were not going as smoothly as had been hoped.

The National Investment and Development Authority (NIDA), PO Box 2669, Konedobu, Papua New Guinea, was established by legislation passed by the House of Assembly in October 1974. The central body co-ordinating dealings between investors and the Papua New Guinea Government, it provides guidance and information including an explanation of government priorities in investment, to would-be investors, and operates a comprehensive and compulsory registration procedure. The NIDA legislation included guidelines for investment in Papua New Guinea.

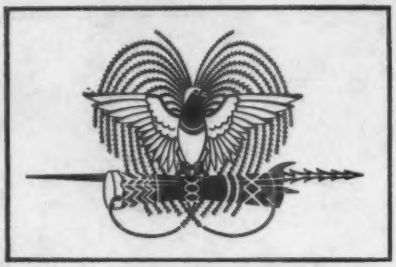
Manufacturing industry

British firms are well represented among the 700 or so small factories in Papua New Guinea, but the Government's attitude towards investors in this field has changed in conformity with the Government's policy of rural improvement, self-reliance, equitable distribution of income and decentralisation. The Pioneer Industry scheme was suspended late in 1973 and the Government are looking mainly for industries needed to achieve development aims, for instance, industries which process the country's agricultural products or contribute to import substitution.

Agriculture

The four major tree crops – coconut, coffee, cocoa and rubber – continue to be important to commercial agriculture, but the rural economy has been diversified with the recent establishment of beef cattle, oil palm and tea industries, together with pyrethrum, passion fruit, peanuts, market gardening, poultry and fishing. To increase import substitution, village agriculture is being encouraged to produce fresh fruit and vegetables. Coconut plantations will increasingly pass into indigenous ownership, and an Act of Parliament has

First stage of a $Aust.18 million woodchip project opened by Jant Pty. Ltd. at Madang.



been passed to hasten the acquisition of this property, if necessary by compulsory purchase. Most new overseas investment in agriculture will be confined to large-scale developments such as oil palm and tea. Outstanding in palm oil is the 40,000 acre development near Kimbe in West New Britain, owned 50:50 by the Papua New Guinea Government and the Harrisons Crosfield group. So far well over 1,500 increasingly prosperous smallholder farmers are contributing to the 15,000 tons of kernels a year being processed by the project's own mill.

Fishing

Catches of fish, lobster and prawns go mainly to markets in Japan and the USA. Four joint ventures with bases in New Ireland, East New Britain, West New Britain and Madang fish for skipjack tuna under long-term agreements. The annual tuna catch is estimated at about 30,000 tons. The joint ventures including Japanese, Australian and American interests, are involved in negotiations for the establishment of a cannery at Madang designed to process about 15,000 tons of tuna a year for export.

Forestry

Of Papua New Guinea's land mass of about 46 million hectares, 40 million hectares are wooded, 36 million are true forest, 15 million physically accessible, 8,500,000 economically exploitable and two million are either being worked at present or are likely to be worked in the next 10 years. Twelve separate timber areas accounting for most of these two million hectares are now either in production, under negotiation or in prospect. Exports of timber and timber products rose from nearly $5 million in 1968-69 to $10.7 million in 1972-73, but the Department of Forests believe it is only now that the industry has come to the threshold of a period of rapid growth and change. Proposals for the development of the timber industry place considerable emphasis on large-scale ventures and the attraction of overseas wood product organisations with adequate financial backing and market prospects. The Papua New Guinea Government also look for the creation of local industries using local labour.

The public sector

Electricity. Tenders are expected to go out in little more than a year's time for an additional hydro-electric station at Rouna, 20 miles outside Port Moresby, where three such stations are already operating. Good progress is being made on the first stage of the Upper Ramu hydro-electric scheme in the Eastern Highlands, which is expected to product its first megawatt of electricity late in 1975. Other hydro-electric schemes so far investigated include one of 400 megawatts on the Musa River in the Northern District, and a small one on the Waga River in the Western Highlands. The most exciting proposal is a scheme to produce up to 10,000 megawatts from the Purari River and its tributaries which empty into the Gulf of Papua. The first stage would be the construction of a dam and power station at Wabo, about 70 miles northwest of Orokolo Bay in the Gulf, at a cost of about $US690 million to produce up to 1,800 megawatts. The Government hopes to say by the end of 1976 whether the scheme should go ahead. The first consultancy likely to come up then would be for a harbour in the Gulf. Possible user-industries include aluminium smelting and uranium enrichment.

Highways. With loans from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank, work is expected to begin about July 1975 on the upgrading and part-sealing of two existing highways at a total cost of over $40 million. They are the Highlands Highway extending some 450 kilometres from Lae into the Western Highlands, and about 200 kilometres of the Hiritano Highway which runs along the Papuan coast to link Port Moresby with Kerema (Gulf District). Further ahead, a road will have to be opened northwards from Kerema if the Purari scheme materialises and, most important of all, a link will be created between the Hiritano Highway and the existing road at Wau-Bulolo (Morobe District), thus making possible land communication between Lae and Port Moresby.

Harbours. In Port Moresby a 3½-acre site has been reclaimed as part of a $4 million first stage of the port development project. Reclamation will later be extended over an adjacent 10 acres, and within three years a 500 ft. wharf is expected to be commissioned on the site with water dredged to 40 ft. Eventually, a further 10 acres will be reclaimed and the wharf will be lengthened to 1,200 ft. In Lae, the extension of the existing wharves from 800 to 1,400 ft. should be completed in March 1975. For future expansion interest in Lae has turned to a tidal basin northwest of the wharves now being lengthened, two new harbours may be needed in the Gulf of Paua if the Ok Tedi copper project and the Purari scheme go ahead.

Telecommunications. An $8.3 million contract for the manufacture and laying of a new cable over the 500 miles from Port Moresby to the SEACOM cable station in Cairns, Australia, has been won by a British company. The Posts and Telegraphs Department have begun their second development programme, financed by a World Bank loan of $US10 million.

Airports/Airlines. A new runway capable of taking fully-laden Boeing 727s and 707s is being built at Jackson's Airport, Port Moresby, at a cost (with associated works) of $7.6 million. At Nadzab Airport, near Lae, it is planned to spend $3¼ million over two years strengthening and reshaping the existing runway.

Air Niugini has no plans at present for buying British aircraft, but two commercial operators propose adding to their fleets of Britten-Norman Islanders.

Tourism

The numbers of tourists have been below expectations, but the traffic is expected to increase with the improvement of the

Right: cocoa seedlings, Gazelle Peninsula, East New Britain.

Below left: tea factory in the highlands of Papua New Guinea: Papua New Guinea's tea is highly thought of on the London market.

Below right: rubber thongs (open sandals) being produced in a factory at Port Moresby.

Photographs in this feature and on the cover are reproduced by courtesy of the Office of Information, Papua New Guinea.

Port Moresby airport and the provision of new hotels, including a 190-room Travelodge scheduled for completion in 1976 in Port Moresby.

The market for British exporters

Papua New Guinea is a small market. In 1972-73, the last year for which statistics are available, imports into Papua New Guinea totalled $229 million* and the top five countries supplying them were Australia $123.5 million, Japan $35.6 million, USA $21 million, Singapore $9.3 million and the United Kingdom $9.2 million. However, more and more UK firms are doing well in the market and the opportunities available to British companies are expanding because:

1 Papua New Guinea has more money to spend – from Bougainville Copper Ltd. and from high 1974 prices for agricultural exports.
2 The Papua New Guinea Government want to reduce the country's dependence on Australian and Japanese imports.
3 Britain's prices are very competitive and buyers in Papua New Guinea who had got out of the habit of thinking British are again now doing so.

Factors to be borne in mind in trading with Papua New Guinea include the following:

Fewer customers in Papua New Guinea are interested in doing business through Australian agents of British firms. They wish to act directly for British principals, and to import direct from Britain. It costs as much to ship from Sydney to Papua New Guinea as from the UK to Papua New Guinea by Bank Line.

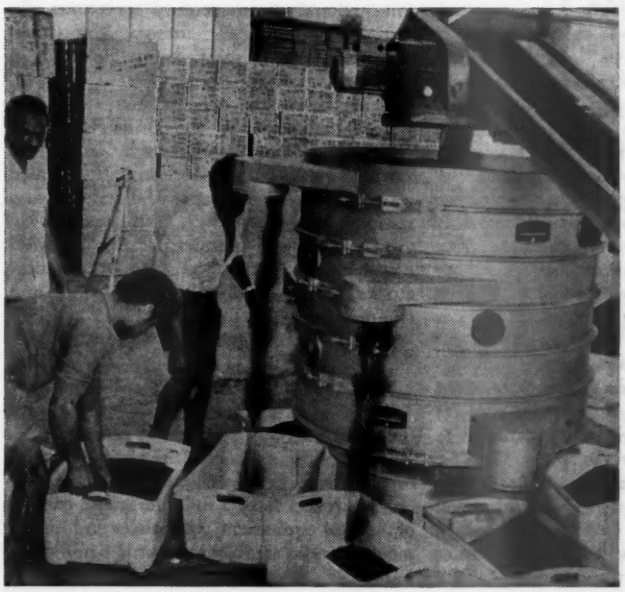
The Papua New Guinea Government, when considering consultancies, contracts or purchases of capital equipment, invariably favour firms represented locally.

Worthwhile opportunities exist for increasing British exports, of amongst other things, foodstuffs, confectionery, pharmaceuticals, toiletries and cosmetics, hardware and bicycles. UK merchants dealing in a wide range of products can provide a useful service to Papua New Guinea's many medium-sized retailers. There is increasing interest in British machinery and equipment, including that for the timber industry. Consulting and contracting firms in which there is a UK interest are already active in Papua New Guinea.

Opportunities are there for firms who take the trouble to investigate this market. A business visit to Papua New Guinea can be fitted reasonably easily into an Australian, Far Eastern or South-East Asian itinerary. An entry permit is essential for visitors to Papua New Guinea and may be obtained from Australia House in London.

A notice regarding a detailed market report on Papua New Guinea has been circulated to subscribers to the Export Intelligence Service. Any firm wishing to pursue their interest in the Papua New Guinea market should contact, and all inquiries concerning this report should be directed to, Export Services Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757 ext. 7015).

* Figures supplied by Papua New Guinea Bureau of Statistics.



Exhibitions and Fairs

British Ambassador to The Hague Sir John Barnes talks with a United Kingdom exhibitor at the Horecava hotel and catering industry show in Amsterdam last month.

Restaurant and bar refurbishing highlighted at Amsterdam event

From J. D. Monaghan, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, The Hague: Over 600 companies exhibited at the 19th Horecava, international exhibition for the hotel and catering industry, Amsterdam, 6-9 January. Under the sponsorship of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, supported by British Overseas Trade Board, 18 British companies formed a joint venture housed in an attractive shell scheme of some 430 sq. m. The London Chamber of Commerce provided an information stand.

After a drop in attendance in 1974, figures this year were above the 1973 level of more than 64,000. With one or two exceptions, the joint venture exhibitors were pleased with the number of, mainly trade, visitors to their stands. Half the British exhibitors were taking part in a joint venture in the Netherlands for the first time and they found the show very rewarding.

British Soap Co. Ltd. of Bicester sold everything on its stand; S. C. Coffee and Tea Co. of Worthing was working out details of an impressive distribution agreement to be concluded later; I. H. Lavery and Co. of Aylesbury (which came only to see whether its products were suitable for the local market) received many interested inquiries and was seriously discussing an exclusive distributorship; Alan Newman Ltd., London, displaying a range of fitted hotel furniture, received expressions of interest from some top Dutch distributors.

F. G. Pearce Ltd. of Dundee was inundated with visitors wishing to snap up individual items of furniture from its display: it took two or three large orders for hundreds of chairs for restaurant and pub interiors and had local interior designers very interested. P. and R. Theakston Ltd., seeking to import its 'genuine Yorkshire Ale' into the Netherlands, was pleasantly surprised at its popularity and arranged some distributorships on a regional basis.

Of the regular visitors to Horecava, Coldflow Ltd. was again very successful. Its device for automatic switching of beer taps from empty to full containers received notable attention. The Ditchburn Organisation, since appointing a Dutch agent last year, has begun to make inroads into the expanding Dutch market for background music systems and has justifiably high hopes for the future. It is backed by an impressive service organisation. Wimpey International Ltd. was again present and, in spite of generally difficult times in the Dutch hotel trade, managed to increase franchised outlets to 38.

A good deal of refurbishing is under way in the restaurant and public bar industries. This was brought out clearly at Horecava where some of the large brewery chains (Dutch and British) were talking about large-scale investment in their retail outlets. Some of the British companies in this joint venture have been able to benefit accordingly and will benefit even more if they can produce the goods on time.

Horecava 76 will be held 5-8 January 1976, again at the RAI Halls.

Finnish Minister opens Helsinki medical congress

From Gus Grönroos, Commercial Publicity Officer, British Embassy, Helsinki: The annual Finnish medical conference and exhibition, 'Medicine', was held 5-10 January, again at Dipoli near Helsinki. Mrs. Seija Karkinen, Minister for Health and Social Affairs, opened the conference and toured the exhibition which included displays of pharmaceuticals and medicines, medical equipment and instruments.

Traditionally, the medical congress attracts many Finnish doctors and this year was no different. About 2,600 GPs and specialists (or about 50 per cent of all Finnish doctors) attended, as well as numerous medical students, nurses, hospital administrators and pharmacists. Most also visited the exhibition, comprising 80 stands displaying the products of mainly Finnish manufacturers or agents, though a number of local subsidiaries of international pharmaceutical companies also showed. About 200 foreign companies' products were on show, about 35 of which were British.

Britain's was the only national stand and was co-ordinated by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry. It occupied an excellent site and, being well designed and compact, was clearly an 'eye-catcher'. On display were the products of the following British companies: Beecham Research Laboratories, Glaxo Holdings, Merck, Sharp and Dohme Ltd., Searle Laboratories, E. R. Squibb and Sons Ltd., The Wellcome Foundation, Winthrop Laboratories, William Freeman and Co. Ltd., and Sterilin Ltd.

The British exhibitors were pleased with the number of serious inquiries received.

Britain remains one of the main exporters of pharmaceuticals to Finland: our exports last year exceeded £3 million. British exports of medical equipment, appliances and instruments are also significant: over £1 million in 1973.

Good demand for quality carpets noted at Californian trade show

From Robina Colville, Vice Consul (Commercial), Los Angeles: A definite upsurge of interest in British carpets has manifested itself in California over the last few months. Of various reasons given for this, possibly the most feasible is that domestic manufacturers have neglected to produce Axminsters and Wilton to any great extent over recent years. Stepped-up activities by well-known British companies such as Brintons Carpets Ltd., which recently opened a West Coast office in Los Angeles, have also contributed. Similarly, Carpets from London, well-established importer of carpets from a number of British manufacturers, has been achieving growing success over a number of years. The demand for the most part has been for carpet for commercial buildings.

In January, a carpet trade show was held at the Hyatt Hotel, City of Commerce, near Los Angeles, where there were between 40 and 50 showrooms. The sole British exhibitor was David Behman, who recently formed an agency to represent British carpet manufacturers. Mr. Behman was very enthusiastic about the favourable reaction of buyers to his interesting display.

Samples from the following British manufacturers were included in the range: Forfar, Perthshire: Shown were Berber wools in many attractive colours and styles. Also from this company, sisal broadloom designed by Mary Abbott in decorator colours. A strong interest was shown in using this as wall covering as well as floor covering. The company's wool contract carpet tile drew a lot of interest for better quality commercial projects.

Donaghadee, Northern Ireland: This company supplied carpeting in synthetic yarns made into an imitation of Berber wools. With its reputation as the second largest printer of carpets in the world, its printed goods drew a lot of acclaim for the sharpness and clarity of colours and Axminster-like styles.

Victoria Carpet Mills, Kidderminster, supplied samples of Axminsters in 80 per cent wool/20 per cent nylon, as well as 100 per cent nylon. Beautiful designs and quality again attracted a lot of attention. Green Bros, pvc matting in brilliant colours had a striking effect on all visitors to the show. Hardura Ltd. of Blackburn supplied samples of resilient flooring for commercial application. This product aroused particular interest because US manufacturers apparently do not make anything of this nature on a pvc foam backing. A number of specifiers were considering the various applications for this product in the commercial field, along with its foamed flocked nylon carpet tiles.

Florco Ltd., of Thatcham, manufacturer of felt-based linoleum, supplied an unusual product which, although not new in concept, has not been manufactured in the United States for some considerable time. It appeared that, although perhaps limited in application, there was definitely a market for the product. The ultimate in luxury was not forgotten and was brought graphically into focus by Edwin Field and Sons Ltd. of Huddersfield which has, with great forethought, put its designers to work to bring out America's Bi-Centennial theme. The company has produced some quite spectacular area rugs woven on Wilton looms, utilising 100 per cent wool and 50 per cent wool/50 per cent timbrelle. The pièce de résistance was an area rug, woven in the finest of mohair, which won the greatest measure of admiration from viewers.

Most exhibitors showed optimism about their prospects for 1975. They claimed that there was business to be had for anyone ready to go after it and prepared to work that much harder. In fact, salesmen who are really trying are already getting business away from those sitting back and complaining about the economy. As Mr. Behman pointed out, there may be a slump in sales of cheaper carpets but where high quality is the decisive factor there is still a good demand, particularly for commercial buildings.

Leipzig Fair

German Democratic Republic
9-16 March 1975

A world-wide exhibition of the latest capital equipment and consumer goods covering more than 350,000 square metres. Special product displays spotlighting the most significant developments in key branches of production. Specialist days, symposia and exhibit-linked lectures promoting international exchanges of experience.

Wide-ranging service facilities for all visitors to the 800-year old trade centre in the German Democratic Republic. Leipzig, the World Trade Centre, awaits you.

Reserved accommodation bookable in the UK.
Direct flights by British Airways.
Special inclusive arrangements available.
Information and Fair Cards
from Leipzig Fair Agency, Department T.I.
19 Dover Street, London W1X 3PB,
telephone 01-493 3111.

Trade Information

New trade agreements with Iran

A number of new trade agreements between the United Kingdom and Iran were announced by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, in a statement in the House of Commons on 31 January. Mr. Shore said:

'I went to Iran for the Third Session of the Joint Ministerial Economic Commission of which the Minister of Commerce and I are joint chairman. The occasion enabled me to have wide ranging talks with the Iranian Minister and other leading Ministers in the Iranian Government. At the conclusion of these markedly cordial and positive exchanges I was able to sign agreements offering valuable business and many new job opportunities for this country.

'First, we established a new programme of joint ventures between British and Iranian firms in the agricultural and industrial spheres.

'Second, we agreed a number of major new areas of co-operation, including railway electrification, housing, hospitals, distribution of goods, and training.

'Third, we have agreed to supply Iran with ships.

'Fourth, Iran has affirmed its intention that its national airline, Iranair, should be one of the first airlines to operate Concorde.

'Fifth, we have agreed to examine possibilities for joint ventures not only in Iran but also in this country and in third countries.

'Sixth, we have agreed to negotiate a Double Taxation Agreement.

'Seventh, we have agreed to hold a Financial Conference in Tehran in the Spring which Mr. Dennis Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has said he will attend.

'Iran is one of the fastest growing economies in the world. With its ability to transform its oil wealth into major development of its industry, agriculture and infrastructure, it represents a market of first importance for Britain. We already enjoy a strong position with a firm base of economic and industrial partnership. I am convinced of the immense economic importance of Iran. The Iranians are convinced of this country's technological achievements and of its underlying industrial strength, reinforced by our imminent entry into the ranks of oil producers. What we now need is a vigorous response from industry, both public and private sector.'

Communique

The following communique was issued in Tehran on 29 January at the end of the Third Session of the Irano-British Joint Ministerial Commission for Trade and Development:

'The Third Session of the Irano-British Joint Ministerial Commission for Trade and Economic Co-operation was held in Tehran from 27 to 29 January 1975.

'The Iranian delegation was led by His Excellency Mr. Fereidoun Mahdavi, Minister of Commerce, and the United Kingdom delegation was led by the Rt. Hon. Peter Shore, MP, Secretary of State for Trade.

'The Joint Commission affirmed that Iran's international economic and financial position, combined with the United Kingdom's advanced technological capabilities afforded extensive opportunities for a durable and mutually beneficial co-operation in diverse fields.

'The Commission expressed satisfaction over the successful implementation of the decisions made during the Second Session of the Iran-United Kingdom Investment Conference, and noted with pleasure the large numbers of joint ventures now under negotiation between Iranian and British partners.

'The measures which have been agreed during the Third Session of the Joint Ministerial Economic Commission are designed to intensify existing areas of co-operation and to establish new ones.

'Both sides agreed that the close, regular and friendly contacts between the two governments should be maintained in order to facilitate the carrying out of these measures.

'Both sides also agreed that work should be put in hand on planning for co-operation between Iran and the United Kingdom in the longer term, so that the necessary measures can be taken rapidly at the appropriate time. To this end, discussions between the relevant Iranian and United Kingdom authorities would be started in the near future.'

'How Britain can help Iran'

At a dinner given by the Iranian Minister of Commerce on 27 January, Mr. Shore said that Britain's experience as an industrial nation could be so valuable to Iran. As the first modern industrial nation, Britain was more than a repository of factories and technology. 'We are deeply aware of the interaction between industry and the whole of society. We made mistakes in our first and indeed our second Industrial Revolution. You can benefit from them.

'Several of the lessons that can be learned from our experience form part of the substance of our talks. We both know the importance of having a pool of skilled and trained manpower. We both know the importance of having the capacity to develop our own technologies. We both know the importance to a modern industrial state of an efficient distribution and transport system. We have already created our second generation roads and ports and railways – electric and diesel. Indeed, in the last 15 years, we have virtually redeveloped and renewed an enormous proportion of our transport system.

'We can, I hope, contribute to your plans in the social sector – your ambitious housing developments, your hospital programme, the creation of a school meals service – and we can help further the growth of Tehran as a major international financial centre.'

Mr. Shore also said we have gone through – and come through – a most difficult period in the last 12 months.

'Looking ahead. I am confident about our future. I believe that our new policies will create a much stronger British industrial performance in the years to come. I am confident too, because we have certain fundamental strengths. We have, like you, rich energy resources – incomparably larger than that of any other European nation. We have an intelligent workforce – both management and workers. We have

Peter Shore (left) Secretary of State for Trade, and Fereidoun Mahdavi, Iran's Minister of Commerce, signing trade agreements between the two countries.

an abundance of scientific and technological skills. We have an accumulated wisdom and experience in financial matters. And we have what is fundamentally a coherent and cohesive society. My confidence in the future extends – and I hope justifiably – to the United Kingdom's relations with Iran. Your potential and your determination to become a major industrial nation is an increasingly impressive force in the world today.'

ECGD news

First cardboard manufacturing plant for the Philippines

An £8.5 million contract awarded to Klöckner Ina Industrial Plants Ltd., London, by Paragon Paper Industries, Philippines, for the supply and erection of a cardboard manufacturing plant. It will be the first such plant in the Philippines. It is being manufactured by Millspaugh Ltd., Sheffield.

The plant will be located in Bataan Province just outside Manila and when fully operational in 1978 will be producing 75 metric tons of cardboard each day. The raw materials for the cardboard will come from recycled waste paper and imported pulp.

Finance for the contract is being arranged by Antony Gibbs Holdings Ltd. on behalf of Barclays Bank International under an ECGD specific bank guarantee.

Sugar factory for Indonesia

A contract of £7.5 million for the supply and installation of a sugar factory by A. and W. Smith and Co. Ltd., Glasgow to P. T. Radjawali Nusantara, Indonesia, has been guaranteed by the ECGD.

The factory will be situated 200 miles from Surabaja in the heart of the sugar growing area of Java, and will produce 50,000 metric tons of white sugar each year for local consumption. Commissioning of the project is scheduled for July 1976.

Finance is being made available to the supplier under an ECGD specific bank guarantee by Antony Gibbs and Sons Ltd., acting on behalf of Lloyds Bank.

First general line of credit for Kenya

The ECGD has guanteed a £1 million line of credit which has been made available to Industrial Development Bank (IDB) Kenya. The loan was arranged with IDB by Morgan Grenfell on behalf of The Royal Bank of Scotland.

This is the first general line of credit to be arranged for Kenya and it will enable Kenyan buyers to place orders in the UK for plant, equipment and associated services on cash terms.

Under the terms of the loan a contract must have a minimum value of £75,000 and be placed by 1 August 1976. UK suppliers will receive 85 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 15 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources. Repayment by IDB will be over a period of five years.

Exporters interested in further details should contact the ECGD (J. Silbertson, tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 7173) or Morgan Grenfell (R. Highman, tel. 01-588 4545).

Portugal: £3m line of credit

A £3 million line of credit which Midland Bank has made available to Banco de Fomento Nacional, Portugal, has been guaranteed by the ECGD.

To qualify under this line of credit, a contract must have a minimum value of £25,000 and be placed by 31 October 1976. Repayment of the loan will be over a period of four or five years depending on the value of each individual contract. Under the terms of the loan UK exporters will receive 85 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 15 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources.

Exporters interested in further details should contact either W. A. Mann of ECGD, 01-606 6699, ext. 7355), A. W. R. Crocker of Midland Bank (01-606 9911, ext. 3679).

West India Committee missions reports

Reports of two recent important trade missions have been produced by the West India Trade Committee.

A report on the mission to Guyana, Surinam and Trinidad last September details, area by area, the findings of the mission and includes information on the development programmes and opportunities for British exports. Copies are available at £1.50 each, plus postage.

The other report is on the mission to Cuba – the first British trade mission to the country for 22 years – led by Lord Walston.

The report covers the government structure in Cuba, the economic conditions and in particular the opportunities for increasing exports. It is intended that the report should complement the British Overseas Trade Board's 'Hints to Businessmen' booklet. The report is available at £5 per copy, plus 15p postage. Application for copies should be made to the Trade Secretary, West India Committee, 18 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 0HP (tel. 01-629 6353).

Notices to Importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB.

No. 1478: Community surveillance of certain goods

UK licensing arrangements for goods subject to Community surveillance of imports under the general provisions of Regulation (EEC) 1439/74 (which supersedes Regulation (EEC) 1025/70) were set out in Notices to Importers Nos. 1397 and 1447. The purpose of this Notice is to announce (i) a change in the existing surveillance on imports of *electronic calculating machines* (hitherto only machines from Japan were affected), and (ii) the extension of surveillance import licensing to include *acrylic socks.*

On and after 20 February 1975 the following goods from the sources indicated can be imported into the UK only under an individual import licence. Licences will be issued freely upon application on Form ILB/A to Import Licensing Branch at the above address :

i Tariff heading ex 60.03 – knee, calf and ankle length socks, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised, wholly or mainly of acrylic fibres, originating in the Republic of Korea or Taiwan and consigned to the UK from any country or territory not in the EEC.
In addition to the details to be entered on Form ILB/A, applicants must provide *separately* the following information –

a the intended date or dates of importation
b the name and address of the exporter and of the producer
c whether knee, calf or ankle length
d whether adults' or children's
e whether terry towelling or other (eg ribbed)

Licences for acrylic socks will be valid for three months.

ii Tariff heading ex 84.52 – electronic calculating machines with four operations namely addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, whether or not capable of performing other operations or functions, and having a display or printing capacity of 10 or more digits, originating in the GATT Area* and consigned to the UK from any country or territory not in the EEC.

Applicants for licences for Japanese calculators will no longer be required to state whether they are printing or non-printing. Licences will be valid for six months.

Inquiries : ILB, tel. 01-215 5834

* See Annex B of NTI 1397 for list of countries. Broadly, the GATT Area includes all countries other than EEC countries, state trading countries and S. Rhodesia.

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by 20 February 1975.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
28.28	Lithium hydroxide	As in previous column	31 December 1975	13780
29.44	Cephazolin and its salts	Cefazolin and its sodium salts	31 December 1975	15244
73.19	Steel pipes, longitudinally butt-welded, in lengths of not less than 7 m. and not more than 14 m. with an outside diameter of not less than 811 mm. and not more than 818 mm. and a wall thickness of not less than 19 mm. and not more than 21 mm., for use in the transmission of natural gas	32 in. linepipe	31 December 1975	14553
85.18	Electrical capacitors, fixed or variable for incorporation in the Concorde automatic flight control system	As in previous column	31 December 1975	12913/8
85.19	Electrical apparatus for making and breaking electrical circuits, for the protection of electrical circuits, or for making connections to or in electrical circuits (for example, switches, relays, fuses, lightning arresters, surge suppressors, plugs, lampholders and junction boxes) ; resistors, fixed or variable (including potentiometers), other than heating resistors ; printed circuits ; switchboards (other than telephone switchboards) and control panels for incorporation in the Concorde automatic flight control system	As in previous column	31 December 1975	12913/8
85.21	Thermionic, cold cathode and photo-cathode valves and tubes (including vapour or gas filled valves and tubes, cathode-ray tubes, television camera tubes and mercury arc rectifying valves and tubes) ; photocells ; mounted piezo-electric crystals ; diodes, transistors and similar semi-conductor devices ; electronic microcircuits for incorporation in the Concorde automatic flight control system	As in previous column	31 December 1975	12913/8
90.28	Electrical measuring, checking, analysing or automatically controlling instruments and apparatus for incorporation in the Concorde automatic flight control system	As in previous column	31 December 1975	12913/8

Supplementary guidance for British firms in South Africa

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has written to the chairmen of over 500 British companies with interests in South Africa to draw their attention to the recently published White Paper containing the Government's observations on the Select Committee Report on the Wages and Conditions of African Workers Employed by British Firms in South Africa (see *Trade and Industry*, 26 December 1974, page 714). Mr. Shore has invited chairmen to publish information indicated in the White Paper about the wages and related matters of their African employees, and has also sent them a copy of the 'Supplementary Guidance' which augments the Guidelines on employment practices distributed last May.

The supplementary guidance is as follows:

SOUTH AFRICA: SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE ON INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, TRAINING AND ADVANCEMENT, PAY AND FRINGE BENEFITS

Introduction

1. This booklet, which will be updated as required, has been prepared by the staff of the British Embassy and Consulates-General in South Africa in conjunction with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department of Trade. As envisaged in the Government's White Paper* published on 18 December 1974, copies are being sent to all British companies known to have affiliates employing Africans in South Africa. It supplements the 'Guidelines for United Kingdom Companies with Interests in South Africa' (ie the Code of Practice recommended by the Expenditure Committee) issued by the Department of Trade and circulated to the chairmen of many British companies under cover of the Secretary of State's letter of 14 May 1974.

2. The staff of the British Embassy in South Africa will be strengthened by the addition of a First Secretary (Labour) from end February 1975 so that they can keep Departments in London more fully and reliably informed on these matters and provide, when requested, information and advice in general terms to South African affiliates of British companies.

3. The South African organisations mentioned in paragraphs 4-14 can provide more specialised information on such matters as industrial relations, training and advancement of Africans, wage levels and fringe benefits.

Industrial relations

4. The system of industrial relations in South Africa as it affects African workers is summarised in paragraphs 30-31 of the Expenditure Committee's Report. Employers requiring information on the industrial relations laws of South Africa will no doubt consult their lawyers and the Department of Labour/Department of Bantu Administration. Information is also available from Chambers of Commerce and other organisations mentioned below. In September 1974 the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce (PO Box 687, Johannesburg) revised their *Outline of Legislation Affecting the Employment of Black Workers*. Copies can be obtained from the Chamber at R3.00 per copy.

5. The Code of Practice urges that companies should seek to develop collective bargaining with African employees through trade unions as and when they evolve. It should be borne in mind that trade unions for African workers, although they may not be registered, are not illegal. Where unions for African workers do not exist companies should expand consultation, communication and training in industrial relations through effective Works Committees or Liaison Committees.

6. The following are sources of detailed information about the employment of Black Workers:

Source	*Nature of Information*
Department of Planning and the Environment Private Bag X213 Pretoria Tel. 48-2971	All matters concerning employment of Africans within the major industrial areas
Decentralisation Board Private Bag X342 Pretoria Tel. 48-5580	All matters concerning employment of Africans outside the major industrial areas
The Central Bantu Labour Board c/o Ministry of Labour Laboria Building Paul Kruger Street Pretoria Tel. 2-9771	Wage determinations for Africans
Department of Bantu Administration and Development PO Box 384 Pretoria Tel. 3-9711	Questions about the housing and transport of African employees
Registrar of Medical Schemes Van der Stel Building Pretoria Tel. 48-3320	Advice about medical schemes
Registrar of Pension Funds Poyntons Centre Church Street West Pretoria Tel. 48-4329	Advice about pension schemes
Trade Union Council of South Africa 401 Vulcan House Box 5592 Johannesburg	Industrial relations
Urban Training Project Executive House West Street Johannesburg	Industrial relations

The following books provide useful background information:

Title	*Publishers*
South Africa: basic facts and figures	South African Institute of Race Relations PO Box 97 Johannesburg
The African Homelands of South Africa	South African Institute of Race Relations PO Box 97 Johannesburg
A Survey of Race Relations in South Africa (published annually)	South African Institute of Race Relations PO Box 97 Johannesburg
Migrant Labour in South Africa	South African Council of Churches PO Box 31190 Braamfontein Johannesburg

* Cmnd. 5845. *Wages and Conditions of African Workers Employed by British firms in South Africa. Government observations on the Fifth Report from the Expenditure Committee: House of Commons Paper 116 Session 1973-74.*

Management Responsibility and African Employment

Ravan Press (Pty) Ltd.
5th Floor, Pharmacy House
80 Jorissen Street
Braamfontein
Johannesburg

Training and advancement

7. Companies without training schemes of their own and with no experience of negotiation with Government authorities or with trade unions over opening up new categories of work to African, Coloured or Asian employees may obtain information from:

Department of Bantu Education
196 Scheiding Street
Private Bag 212
Pretoria

National Development and Management Foundation
Management House
Melle Street
Box 31793
Braamfontein
Johannesburg
Tel. 724-6321

South African Federated Chamber of Industries
Nedbank Plaza
Church Street
Box 4516
Pretoria
Tel. 2-5351

8. The Department of Bantu Education operates, and can provide information on, training schemes for Africans. These include Trade and Technical Schools for the training of artisans, industrial schools in the decentralised areas for training operators and Technical Colleges for the training of technicians. Other schemes are being established for Departmental Manual Training Centres and also for private Industrial Training Centres (where industrialists bear the financial responsibility of running costs.) Tax concessions are also available for employers to offset expenditure incurred on approved African training schemes.

Poverty Datum Line (PDL) and Minimum Effective Level (MEL)

9. The Committee devoted much of its Report to the PDL and MEL as criteria for minimum wages. It emphasised that the various studies had been made by university departments and other private bodies and that estimates varied considerably, both in the same place at the same time, and from place to place. Thus there is no single PDL or MEL rate for South Africa as a whole. But the following studies are suggested as sources of statistical information. Copies can be obtained from the addresses below, or consulted at the British Embassy in Pretoria or Cape Town (the Cape Town offices are normally open only during the Parliamentary session), and at the British Consulates-General in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

(a) Professor Potgieter at the Institute for Planning Research, University of Port Elizabeth (UPE), PO Box 1600, Port Elizabeth.
Areas covered: Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Kimberley, Durban, Pretoria, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Ladysmith, King William's Town, Uitenhage, and Despatch. Latest date for which PDLs available: October 1974. Publication title: *Institute's Fact Paper No. 14*, published in November 1974. (Note: The term Household Subsistence Level (HSL) is used instead of PDL.)

(b) Professor Nel at the Bureau of Market Research, University of South Africa (UNISA), PO Box 392, Pretoria.
Areas covered: Alberton, Benoni, Boksburg, Brakpan, Cape Peninsula, Durban, East London, Germiston, Johannesburg, Kempton Park, Krugersdorp, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria, Roodepoort, Springs, Uitenhage and Vereeniging/Vanderbijlpark. Latest date for which PDLs available: May 1974. Publication title: *The Minimum Subsistence Level of non-Whites living in the main Urban Areas of the Republic of South Africa. May 1974 – Research Report 41.* (Note: The term Minimum Subsistence Level (MSL) is used instead of PDL.)

(c) Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce
Area covered: Johannesburg (Soweto). Latest date for which PDL's available – May 1974. Publication title: *The Chamber's Newsletter (No. 29 of 26 July 1974).* (Note: The Chamber's figures are for a recommended minimum wage, which includes a number of items additional to the PDL definition.)

(d) Department of Economics, University of Natal (UN), King George V Avenue, Durban.
Area covered: Durban. Latest date for which PDL available – March 1974. Publication title: *Mean Poverty Datum Line Index for Africans in Durban, March 1974.*

These bodies hope to achieve greater uniformity in their terminology and in their methods of calculating minimum wage levels. Many future studies therefore may well be directed towards the 'Minimum Living Level' (MLL), which includes allowances for the basic items of the PDL and also for medical and dental care, prescribed and patent medicine, education, the replacement of household equipment, and tax. The MLL falls well short of the MEL, the approximate equivalent of which in the new terminology is the 'Higher Living Level' (HLL). Employers may wish to continue using the PDL and MEL as the basis for their implementation of the Code of Practice, but they should be aware of the current trend among many research bodies to advocate use of the MLL.

The United Kingdom South Africa Trade Association (21 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LL is prepared to provide British firms with published statistics on wage/living levels.

Deciding on a minimum wage

10. An employer may be uncertain whether to use a higher or lower value survey applicable to his area; or he may find that no survey exists or that the only available surveys are of low value compared with those of other areas. Such an employer should ascertain whether any special limitations apply to the lower value survey – eg whether it provides adequately for such items as food and clothing and takes necessary account of dependants – the last being particularly relevant to migrant workers. Deficiencies or omissions in these respects will make desirable the adoption of the higher value surveys. If there is no suitable survey for his area, the employer should obtain data for a comparable area or situation which might be used or adapted. Another possibility is for the employer to commission, either individually or in co-operation with others and possibly through an employers' association, a special survey from a competent organisation or institution.

11. The PDLs produced by the University of Port Elizabeth, the University of Natal and the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce are for families of six members in the case of UPE, 5.2 in the case of UN, and five in the case of the JCOC. UNISA produce some 15 PDLs for each place to cover married and single Africans and families of different sizes. The UNISA table of average family sizes (page 4 of their Report 41) shows figures for African families ranging from 5.17 to 6.02. An employer who uses the UNISA figures can establish comparability with other surveys by taking the UNISA figures for a family of five or six.

12. In arriving at the MEL (ie PDL plus 50 per cent), the position with UPE and UN is straightforward as they only produce PDLs. But both UNISA, with their Humane Standard of Living (HSL) and JCOC with their Family Budget produce figures for standards of living above the PDL but well below the MEL. Employers should use the basic PDL (Minimum Subsistence level in the case of UNISA) produced by these bodies and add 50 per cent to reach the level recommended by the Code. It is true that some PDL compilers add less that 50 per cent, thus reaching standards which are lower than the MEL. But the addition of 50 per cent is widely regarded by researchers as the minimum amount necessary to ensure that African households are in a position to spend the stipulated amount on each item included in the PDL. After careful investigation this view was adopted by the Committee.

13. The Code of Practice (paragraph 23) recommended that the ability to pay adult male employees above the relevant PDL should be regarded as a minimum condition for establishing or maintaining a business interest in South Africa.

The Code also urges companies to adopt a timetable for reaching

the MEL as their minimum wage. A maximum transitional period might perhaps be five years.

Minimum wage levels require regular revision to keep abreast of inflation. Companies should review regularly and frequently the adequacy of their wage rates, especially for those at the lower end of the scale. They may wish to use revisions published by the bodies mentioned in paragraph 9 above, or apply a general index factor based on African cost of living increases.

Fringe benefits

14. Information can be obtained from a number of organisations about various aspects of fringe benefits.

(a) Housing African workers in African townships on a family basis and other fringe benefits:
Mr. Stiglingh
Rio Tinto Management Services SA (Pty.) Ltd.
Unicorn House
70 Marshall Street
PO Box 61140
Johannesburg
(*Advice to individual British companies only*)

(b) Helping Africans to obtain education for themselves or their children:
Mrs. Britten
Trusts Officer
Institute of Race Relations
PO Box 97
Johannesburg

(c) Legal advice and assistance:
The Black Sash
37 Harvard Building
Joubert Street
Johannesburg
Tel. 23-1032

Legal Aid Bureau
Markhams Building
Cnr. Pritchard/Eloff Sts.
Johannesburg
Tel. 22-9245

(d) Insurance and pension schemes and medical benefits:
Mr. L. C. G. Douwes Dekker
Urban Training Project
Executive House
West Street
Johannesburg
Tel. 836-8502

(e) Welfare problems:
National Council of Women of South Africa
710 Union Centre
Cnr. Pritchard/Harrison Street
Johannesburg
Tel. 834-4385
or
The Black Sash
(see (c) above)

If a company wishes to know how they can financially assist the education and welfare of Africans, Coloureds or Asians generally they could approach the Institute of Race Relations (see (b)).

Mr. Shore sent the Supplementary Guidance together with the White Paper under cover of the following letter to the chairmen of British companies with associates or subsidiaries in South Africa:

'Dear Chairman,

I wrote to you and other chairmen of British companies with South African affiliates on 14 May, urging you to secure to the fullest possible extent the adoption by your company of the Code of Practice recommended by the House of Commons Trade and Industry Sub-Committee. Many of you have replied assuring me that the recommended policies and practices are being implemented, in some cases describing in considerable detail the action taken or in prospect. These reports have been helpful and I believe that the companies concerned should make public the efforts they are making.

'I am also concerned that Parliament and the public should have access to information which would enable them to judge progress in implementing the Code of Practice. My purpose in writing to you now therefore is to draw your attention to the Government's recently published White Paper (copy enclosed) replying to the Select Committee's recommendations, and to invite your co-operation in carrying out the proposals for publication of information indicated in paragraph 4 and annex 2. I shall be grateful if you will arrange for my Department to receive on a regular basis a copy of the information published by your company.

'I recognise that the nature and scale of the problem varies from company to company and that there will be variations in the extent of progress that each company is able to report. If companies want, in addition to publishing the facts on pay and other matters covered by the Code of Practice, to bring out wider factors which may be relevant I hope they will do so since it will assist the development of informed public judgement on the subject.

'The supplementary guidance on pay and labour practices referred to in paragraph 3 of the White Paper is now available and I enclose a copy – further copies are available from my Department if needed.

'As already announced, and noted in paragraph 6 of the White Paper, we have appointed a First Secretary (Labour) to the Embassy's staff. His role will be to improve the Government's own knowledge and understanding of local problems and to give guidance locally when required.

PETER SHORE'

The letter was sent to the following firms:

Abbot Laboratories Ltd.
ACE Machinery (Holdings) Ltd.
AD International Ltd.
APV Holdings Ltd.
Aaronson Bros. Ltd.
Aberdare Holdings Ltd.
Acrow (Engineers) Ltd.
Adamson Alliance Ltd.
Affiliated Music Publishers Ltd.
Air Products Ltd.
Air Holdings Ltd.
Albright & Wilson Ltd.
Alkaline Batteries Ltd.
Allied Colloids Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
Amalgamated Power Engineering Ltd.
Jeremiah Ambler Ltd.
Ampex Electronics Ltd.
The Anchor Chemical Co. Ltd.
Anderson Strathclyde Ltd.
Geo. Angus and Co. Ltd.
Armitage Shanks Ltd.
Armstrong Equipment Ltd.
Associated Book Publishers Ltd.
Associated British Foods Ltd.
Associated Engineering Ltd.
The Associated Octel Co. Ltd.
Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd.
Atkinson Lorries (Holdings) Ltd.
Automotive Products Associated Ltd.
Averys Ltd.

BBA Group Ltd.
BPB Industries Ltd.
BTR Leyland Industries Ltd.
Babcock & Wilcox Ltd.
Baird & Tatlock
Baker Perkins Holdings Ltd.
Barclays Bank Ltd.
Bardolin Ltd.
Baring Brothers & Co. Ltd.
Barrow Hepburn & Gale Ltd.
Barton & Sons Ltd.
Geo. Bassett Holdings Ltd.
Bay Hall Trust Ltd.
John Beales Associated Companies Ltd.
Bear Brand Ltd.
Beckett, Laycock & Watkinson Ltd.
Beecham Group Ltd.
Bestobell Ltd.
Bifurcated Engineering Co. Ltd.
Birmid Qualcast Ltd.
Black & Decker
Black Edgington Ltd.
Blackwood Hodge Ltd.
Blythe, Green, Jourdain & Co.
Boots Pure Drug Co. Ltd.
Boosey & Hawkes Ltd.
Bowater Building Products Ltd.
C. T. Bowring & Co. Ltd.
Bowthorpe Holdings Ltd.
Robt. Bradford (Holdings) Ltd.
Bradley and Craven Ltd.
The Brent Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
Bridgend Investment Trust Ltd.
Bridon Ltd.
Brightside Engineering Holdings Ltd.
British Airways Board
British-American Tobacco Co. Ltd.
British Cellophane Ltd.
British & Commonwealth Shipping Co. Ltd.
British Electric Traction Co. Ltd.
British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd.
British Land Co. Ltd.
British Leyland Motor Corporation Ltd.
The British Oxygen Co. Ltd.
British Petroleum Co. Ltd.
British Printing Corporation Ltd.
British Steel Constructions (Birmingham) Ltd.
British Steel Corporation
British Titan Ltd.
British Tourist Authority
British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.
British Vita Co. Ltd.
J. Brockhouse & Co. Ltd.
Brooke Bond Liebig Ltd.
Brown Bayley Ltd.
The David Brown Corporation Ltd.
John Brown & Co. Ltd.
H. P. Bulmer Ltd.
Bunzl Pulp & Paper Ltd.
Burmah Oil Co. Ltd.
Bydand Ltd.

CCL Systems Ltd.
Cable & Wireless (Holdings) Ltd.
Cable Trust Ltd.
Cadbury Schweppes Ltd.
Caledonia Investments Ltd.
W. Canning & Co. Ltd.
The Cape Asbestos Co. Ltd.
Caravans International Ltd.
Carpets International Ltd.
Carrier Engineering Co. Ltd.
Carrington Viyella Ltd.
Cavenham Foods Ltd.
The Cementation Co. Ltd.
Centrovincial Estates Ltd.
Chalwyn Lamps Ltd.
Chamberlain Phipps Ltd.
Charter Consolidated Ltd.
The Charterhouse Group Ltd.
Chloride Group Ltd.
Chubb & Sons Lock and Safe Co. Ltd.
C. & J. Clark Ltd.
Clarke, Chapman – John Thompson Ltd.
Clarke, Nickolls & Coombs Ltd.
Clarkson International Tools Ltd.

Clayton Dewandre Holdings Ltd.
Clayton Son & Co. (Holdings) Ltd.
H. Clegg & Co. Ltd.
Coast Lines Ltd.
Coates Bros. & Co. Ltd.
Coats Patons Ltd.
A. Cohen & Co. (Great Britain) Ltd.
The George Cohen 600 Group Ltd.
J. Collett Ltd.
William Collins & Sons (Holdings) Ltd.
Commercial Union Assurance Co. Ltd.
Commonwealth Development Corporation
Commonwealth Development Finance Co. Ltd.
Concrete Utilities Group
Consolidated Gold Fields Ltd.
Consolidated Tin Smelters Ltd.
Coppered Holdings Ltd.
Wm. Cory & Son Ltd.
Court Line Ltd.
Courtaulds
Crabtree Electrical Industries Ltd.
Croda International Ltd.
Crown House Ltd.
Cussons Group Ltd.

Dalgety Ltd.
Davidson & Co. Ltd.
Davy International Ltd.
Dawson & Barfos Ltd.
Dawson & Sons
Joseph Dawson (Holdings) Ltd.
Decca Ltd.
The Delta Metal Co. Ltd.
Derby & Co. Ltd.
Desoutter Bros. (Holdings) Ltd.
The Dickinson Robinson Group Ltd.
The Distillers Co. Ltd.
Doulton & Co. Ltd.
Dowty Group Ltd.
Drake & Cubitt Holdings Ltd.
The Dunlop Co. Ltd.
Duport Ltd.
F. Dupre Ltd.
Dust Control Equipment Ltd.

EMI Ltd.
ERF Ltd.
Eagle Star Insurance Co. Ltd.
East Rand Consolidated Ltd.
East Sussex Engineering Co. Ltd.
Eastwood & Holt Ltd.
Ebenite Container Co. Ltd.
Economist Intelligence Unit
Ellams Duplicator Co. Ltd.
Ellerman Lines Ltd.
B. Elliott & Co. Ltd.
T. L. Elliott Overseas Ltd.
George Ellison Holdings Ltd.
Energy Services & Electronics Ltd.
English China Clays Ltd.
Evans Bros. Ltd.
Ever Ready Co. (Holdings) Ltd.
Explosives & Chemical Products Ltd.

Federated Paints Ltd.
Feedmobile Ltd.
Frank Fehr & Co. Ltd.
J. H. Fenner & Co. (Holdings) Ltd.
Denis Ferranti Meters Ltd.
Finance for Industry Ltd.
Firth Cleveland Ltd.
Thos. Firth and John Brown Ltd.
Fisons Ltd.
A. B. Fleming (Holdings) Ltd.
Fodens Ltd.
Foseco Minsep Ltd.
W. & G. Foyle Ltd.
The Fram Group Ltd.
Alex. Fraser & Son Ltd.
Thos. French & Sons Ltd.
French Kier Holdings Ltd.

GHP Group Ltd.
Gala Cosmetic Group Ltd.
Gandy Ltd.
W. H. Gaze & Sons Ltd.
Geest Industries Ltd.
Geigy Co. Ltd.
General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation Ltd.
General Electric Co. Ltd.
Gestetner Holdings Ltd.
Glaxo Holdings Ltd.
Globe Investment Trust Ltd.
Glynwed Ltd.
Goblin (BVC) Ltd.
Goode Durrant & Murray (Consolidated) Ltd.
The Gourock Ropework Co. Ltd.
Grant Barnett & Co.
The Great Universal Stores Ltd.
N. Greening & Sons Ltd.
Green's Economiser Group Ltd.
Grundy (Teddington) Ltd.
Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Group
Guest Keen & Nettlefolds Ltd.
The Guthrie Corporation Ltd.

G. N. Haden & Sons Ltd.
Hall Engineering (Holdings) Ltd.
Hall Thermotank Ltd.
Hallam, Sleigh & Cheston Ltd.
James Halstead Holdings Ltd.
Hamilton Star Ltd.
L. Hammond & Co. (Holdings) Ltd.
Hampson Jig Tool & Automation Ltd.
L. G. Harris & Co. Ltd.
Harrisons & Crosfield Ltd.
Derek Hartle Ltd.
Hawker Siddeley Group Ltd.
Quinton Hazell (Holdings) Ltd.
Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.
Heenan Beddow Ltd.
W. Heinemann Ltd.
P. C. Henderson Ltd.
A. & S. Henry & Co. Ltd.
Arthur Hentzen & Co. Ltd.
Alfred Herbert Ltd.
Heywood Williams Group Ltd.
Hickson & Welch (Holdings) Ltd.
Hield Bros. Ltd.
Highams Ltd.
Hill & Delamain Ltd.
Hill Samuel & Co. Ltd.
H. R. Holfield (Belfast) Ltd.
Hoover Ltd.
Hopkinsons Holdings Ltd.
Alex Howden (Holdings) Ltd.
Howden Group Ltd.
Howe Richardson Scale Co. Ltd.
Robt. Hudson Ltd.
Hudson's Bay Co.
The Hunting Group of Companies
Hutchinson Ltd.

Illingworth Morris & Co. Ltd.
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.
Incledon & Lamber Ltd.
Industrial Inspection (International) Ltd.
Ingersoll Rand Co. Ltd.
Insulation Equipments Ltd.
International Combustion (Holdings) Ltd.
International Compressed Air Corporation Ltd.
International Computers (Holdings) Ltd.
International Distillers & Vintners Ltd.

William Jacks & Co. Ltd.
Isaac Jackson Holdings Ltd.
Jessel Securities Ltd.
Jeyes Products Ltd.
Gordon Johnson-Stephens Holdings Ltd.
Johnson, Matthey & Co. Ltd.
Johnson & Phillips Ltd.
H. & R. Johnson-Richards Tiles Ltd.

Kalamazoo Ltd.
Kangol Ltd.
Keep Bros. Ltd.
George Kent Ltd.
Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale Ltd.

LRC International Ltd.
Laird Group
James H. Lamont & Co. Ltd.
Lamson Industries Ltd.
Landel Trust Ltd.
Laurence, Scott & Electromotors Ltd.
Harold Laycock (Bradford) Holdings Ltd.
Lead Industries Group Ltd.
Legal & General Assurance Society Ltd.
Lep Group Ltd.
Lindustries Ltd.
Lister & Co. Ltd.
Lloyds & Scottish Ltd.
Thomas Locker (Holdings) Ltd.
Lockwoods Foods Ltd.
London Merchant Securities Ltd.
Lonrho Ltd.
Lopex Ltd.
The Low & Bonar Group Ltd.
Lowe and Carr Ltd.
Lowe and Fletcher Ltd.
Joseph Lucas (Industries) Ltd.
Edward Lumley and Sons Ltd.

McKechnie Brothers Ltd.
Macmillan (Holdings) Ltd.
Manbre & Garton Ltd.
Manders (Holdings) Ltd.
Manifold Transport Services Ltd.
Marchwiel Holdings Ltd.
The Marconi International Marine Co. Ltd.
Marks & Spencer Ltd.
Marley Ltd.
S. Marshall (Halifax) Ltd.
Mather & Platt Ltd.
Mathews Wrightson Holdings Ltd.
May & Hassell Ltd.
Melbray Group Ltd.
Mercury Securities Ltd.
The Metal Box Co. Ltd.
Metal Closures Group Ltd.
Metal Traders Strauss Ltd.
Midland Electric Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
Mills & Allen Ltd.
Minerva Fire Detector Co.

Minet Holdings Ltd.
Mitchell Cotts Group Ltd.
Mobbs & Lewis Ltd.
Molins Ltd.
The Monotype Corporation Ltd.
Montagu Trust Ltd.
The Morgan Crucible Co. Ltd.
Herbert Morris Ltd.
Motor Rail Ltd.
Mullards Radio Valve Co.

Nairn-Williamson (Holdings) Ltd.
National Employers' Mutual General Insurance Association Ltd.
Isaac Naylor & Sons Ltd.
Negretti & Zambra Ltd.
James Neill Holdings Ltd.
Newell-Dunford Engineering Ltd.
Newey & Taylor Ltd.
Newman Tonks (Holdings) Ltd.
Newton, Chambers & Co. Ltd.
James North & Sons Ltd.
Norprint
Norvic Shoe Co. Ltd.
Norwich Union Insurance Group

Ofrex Group Ltd.
Oldham International Ltd.
A. Oppenheimer & Co. Ltd.
Samuel Osborn & Co. Ltd.
Ozalid Co. Ltd.

P. E. Holdings Ltd.
Pancreol Ltd.
Parkinson Cowan Ltd.
Patons & Baldwins Ltd.
Pearl Assurance Co. Ltd.
Pegler-Hattersley Ltd.
Pergamon Press Ltd.
Perivale Gutermann Ltd.
Perkins Engines Ltd.
Permali Ltd.
The Permutit Co. Ltd.
G. D. Peters & Co. Ltd.
Philips Industries
Phoenix Assurance Co. Ltd.
Photo-Me International Ltd.
Pilkington Brothers Ltd.
Pilkington's Tiles Ltd.
Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons Ltd.
The Plessey Co. Ltd.
Portals Holdings Ltd.
Powell Duffryn Ltd.
F. Pratt Engineering Corporation Ltd.
Pritchard Cleaners (Holdings) Ltd.
Prodorite Ltd.
Provincial Insurance Co. Ltd.
Prudential Assurance Co. Ltd.

RCF Holdings Ltd.
Rabone Chesterman Ltd.
Racal Electronics Ltd.
Randalls Group Ltd.
Rank Hovis McDougall Ltd.
Rank Xerox Ltd.
Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd.
Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Ltd.
Reckitt & Colman Ltd.
Record Ridgway Ltd.
Redland Ltd.
Reed International Ltd.
Reeves & Sons Ltd.
Renold Ltd.
Rentokil Group Ltd.
Revertex Ltd.
Rexnord Nordberg Machinery Ltd.
Reyrolle Parsons Ltd.
The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation Ltd.
Thos. Robinson & Sons Ltd.
Rockweld Ltd.
Rotary Hoes Ltd.
Rothmans Ltd.
Rotork Ltd.
Roussel Laboratories Ltd.
Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd.
Royal Insurance Co. Ltd.
Royal Sovereign Pencil Co. Ltd.
The Ruberoid Co. Ltd.
Rubery Owen Holdings Ltd.
Walter Runciman & Co. Ltd.

SGB Group Ltd.
Sadia Water Heaters Ltd.
Fred Sage & Co. Ltd.
Sagit Trust Co. Ltd.
George Salter & Co. Ltd.
Arthur Sanderson & Sons Ltd.
Sanderson Kayser Ltd.
Saunders Valve Co. Ltd.
Scholefield, Goodman & Sons Ltd.
Schreiber Wood Industries Ltd.
Scottish Cables Ltd.
Sears Holdings Ltd.
Seddon Diesel Vehicles Ltd.
Sedgwick Forbes Holdings Ltd.
Selection Trust Ltd.
Sempah Holdings Ltd.
Senior Economisers Holdings Ltd.
Serk Ltd.

Sheffield Twist Drill & Steel Co. Ltd.
The Shell Group of Companies
Siebe Gorman & Co. Ltd.
Simon Engineering Ltd.
Sirdar Ltd.
Smith & Nephew Associated Co. Ltd.
Smith & Wellstood Ltd.
A. E. Smith Coggins Holdings Ltd.
Smiths Industries
Somic Ltd.
Sound Attenuators Ltd.
South Mills (Textiles) Ltd.
The South West Africa Co. Ltd.
Spear & Jackson Ltd.
Spooner Industries Ltd.
Starlex International Ltd.
Standard & Chartered Banking Group Ltd.
Staplegreen Insurance Holdings Ltd.
The Steel Group Ltd.
The Steetley Co. Ltd.
Stein Atkinson Stordy Ltd.
Steinberg & Sons (London & South Wales) Ltd.
Stenhouse Industries
Stone-Platt Industries Ltd.
Storey Bros. & Co. Ltd.
Stothert & Pitt Ltd.
Stroud, Riley & Co. Ltd.
Sun Alliance & London Insurance Ltd.
Bernard Sunley Investment Trust Ltd.
Swan Hunter Group Ltd.

TPT Ltd.
John Tann Security Ltd.
Tarmac Ltd.
Tate & Lyle Ltd.
Taylor Woodrow Group
Tecalemit Ltd.
Telehoist Ltd.
Telephone Rentals Ltd.
James Templeton & Co. Ltd.
The Thomson Organisation Ltd.
Thorn Electrical Industries Ltd.
Thomas Tilling Ltd.
Thurston & Co. Ltd.
Tootal Ltd.
Towles Ltd.
Town & City Properties Ltd.
Toye & Co. Ltd.
Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn (Holdings) Ltd.
Trafalgar House Investments Ltd.
Transport Development Group Ltd.
Trust Houses Forte Ltd.
Tube Investments Ltd.
Turner & Newall Ltd.
Twinlock Ltd.

UK Optical & Industrial Holdings Ltd.
Unigate Ltd.
Unilever Ltd.
The Union International Co. Ltd.
United City Merchants Ltd.
United Dominions Trust Ltd.
United Transport Overseas Ltd.
United Wire Group Ltd.
Universal Grinding Ltd.
Unwick, Orr & Partners Ltd.
USMC International Ltd.

Valor Co. Ltd.
Vantona Ltd.
Vapormatic Co. Ltd.
Vernon & Co. (Surgical Dressings) Ltd.
Vickers Ltd.

Walker, Crosweller & Co. Ltd.
Andrew Weir & Co. Ltd.
The Weir Group Ltd.
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd.
The Wellcome Engineering Corporation Ltd.
Allen West & Co. Ltd.
Westbourne Publication Ltd.
Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co. Ltd.
Whessoe Ltd.
B. S. & W. Whiteley Ltd.
F. Whitley & Co. Ltd.
Wiggins Teape Ltd.
J. Wilkes Ltd.
Wilkinson Match Ltd.
W. Williams & Sons (Holdings) Ltd.
Willis, Faber & Dumas (Holdings) Ltd.
Willows Francis Ltd.
Wilmot Breeden (Holdings) Ltd.
George Wimpey & Co. Ltd.
Thos. Witter & Co. Ltd.
Wolf Electric Tools (Holdings) Ltd.
Rudolph Wolff & Co. Ltd.
A. C. Wood & Sons Ltd.
Wood Hall Trust Ltd.
Woodall-Duckham Group Ltd.
Jonas Woodhead & Sons Ltd.
Woolcombers (Holdings) Ltd.

Yarrow & Co. Ltd.
A. C. Young & Co. Ltd.
Yorkshire Switchgear & Engineering Co. Ltd.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Austria

Duty-free quotas and ceilings for paper, steel and aluminium. The Austrian Federal Ministry for Commerce, Trade and Industry announced on 13 December 1974, that in accordance with the provisions of Protocol 1 of the EEC/Austria Free Trade Agreement, duty-free quotas have been fixed for 1975 for imports of UK and Danish origin of those paper and paper products falling within chapters 48 and 49 of the Austrian customs tariff which are subject to the special arrangements set out in the protocol.

Further, ceilings for 1975 have been established for certain paper and paper products falling within chapter 48, alloy steel and high carbon steel of tariff heading 73.15 and unwrought aluminium of tariff heading 76.01 originating in the enlarged EEC. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Portugal

Motor vehicle assembly: import of CKD packs. The Portuguese authorities have published Decree Laws 288 and 303 of 11 December and 31 December respectively, which clarify and amend the regulations on the local assembly of motor vehicles and import of CKD packs. The primary aim of these two laws is to prevent abuse of those provisions of Decree Law 157/72 of 12 May 1972, as implemented by Decree Law 602/72 of 30 December 1972, relating to the incorporation of Portuguese components in locally assembled vehicles.

Among other things, the amended regulations provide that discounts of more than 3 per cent shall not be regarded as discounts for prompt payment and that all sums paid in relation to the assembly of motor vehicles such as royalty and technical assistance payments shall be computed in the CKD value. Closer supervision of the calculation of national content is provided for together with more stringent penalties for contravention.

An unofficial translation of the amending Decree Laws or an amended translation of Decree Law 157/72 and its implementing regulations is available on request from OTAR ext. 460/461.

Finland

Chemical products for washing cars. The Finnish Ministry of Trade and Industry announced in Resolution No. 844 of 15 November 1974, that Decrees 124 and 125 which introduced regulations (particularly about labelling), for household washing, cleaning and polishing materials and similar products now also apply to chemical products for washing, cleaning and polishing cars. Products not complying with the provisions of Decrees 124 and 125 may now be imported until the end of April 1975. An unofficial translation of Decrees 124 and 125 is available to British exporters on request to OTAR ext. 458/461.

Spain

Certificates of origin. In the *State Gazette*, 17 January 1975, the Spanish authorities announced a modification to the issuing of certificates of origin.

The certificate of origin will not be required to import goods with a cif value not exceeding 50,000 pesetas.

The Spanish customs authorities will admit certificates of origin issued by chambers of commerce or industry, customs authorities, or other government bodies or authorities of the country where the goods are harvested, produced or manufactured.

It will no longer be necessary to mention in the certificate of origin the means of transport used for carriage of goods. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Lifting of pig imports ban. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 13 January 1975, published an order dated 31 December 1974 issued by the Ministry of Agriculture lifting from 13 January the ban on pig imports from the UK due to swine vesicular disease. The new regulations apply to imports of live pigs and pig products from any source. In the case of live pigs, a certificate issued by an officially recognised veterinary officer of the country will now have to accompany shipments, stating the following:

a the animals come from farms which have been free from swine vesicular disease for at least six months before date of export and which are in the centre of an area with a radius of 30 km.

b they have been under veterinary control for 21 days before date of export without any suspicious signs of infectious contagious disease

c at examination at the time of shipment or at most five days before shipment the animals showed no signs of change in their condition.

Copies of the Spanish text are available from OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Soya bean oil: import duty suspended. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 22 January 1975, announced the suspension of import duty until 21 April 1975 on soya bean oil (refined or purified), tariff heading 15.07.A.2.b.3. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Liquefied ammonia: home compensation tax. Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 17 October 1974, page 112, of a temporary reduction to 1.5 per cent in home compensation tax levy until 4 December 1974, on liquefied ammonia, tariff heading 28.16A. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 22 January, extended validity until 4 March 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Newsprint: home compensation tax. Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 3 October 1974, of a temporary reduction to 1.5 per cent in home compensation tax levy on newsprint for daily newspapers, tariff heading 48.01 A1, valid until 23 November 1974, imported under the duty-free quota. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 22 January, announced the extension of validity until 23 February 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

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LONDON SE22 9MG
Telephone: 01-693 1866 9804/5

Hides and skins: import duty suspensions or reductions. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 22 January 1975, announced the suspension of import duty until 26 March 1975 on hides and skins used in the footwear industry and classified under the following tariff headings:

41.02.A.1.a	41.02.A.1.b	41.03.A.1.a
41.03.A.1.b	41.03.A.1.c	41.03.A.1.d
41.03.A.2.a.	41.03.A.2.b	41.04.B.1.a
41.04.B.1.b	41.04.B.1.c	41.05.A.1.a
41.05.A.1.b		

The same *State Gazette* announced reductions of import duty to 1.3 per cent on goods under tariff heading 41.04.B.2 and to 2.4 per cent on goods under tariff heading 41.04.B.3 until 26 March 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Petrochemical products. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 22 January 1975, announced reduction or suspensions in import duties valid from 1 January to 31 March 1975 on the following petrochemical products:

Tariff no.	Description	Import duty
29.01.A.1	Butadiene	Nil
29.08.D	Ethylene glycol	4.5%
29.15.D.1	Dimethyl terephthalate	Nil
29.22.A.4	Hexamethylenediamine monomer adipate	Nil
29.27.B	Acrylomitnle (monomer)	Nil
29.35.G	Caprolactams	Nil
39.01.E.1	Hexamethylene-diamine adipate polymers	4.5%
39.01.E.2	Other polyamides	4.5%
39.01.G.	Ethylene-glycol polyterephlate	4.5%
39.02.G.1	Acrylonitrile copolymers	Nil
39.02.H.1	Polyvinyl butyral and polyvinal formal	Nil

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Calcium nitrate. Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 24 October 1974, page 180, of a temporary suspension of import duty until 21 December 1974 on calcium nitrate, tariff heading 31.02C. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 22 January 1975, announced the extension of the period of validity until 21 March 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Switzerland

Agricultural products: price supplements. Swiss Recueil No. 1 of 13 January 1975, published a revised list of rates of price supplements levied on imports of certain agricultural products. The following BN headings are affected.

ex 0805	ex 1002	ex 1003
ex 1004	ex 1005	ex 1007
ex 1102	ex 1201	ex 2304

The new rates took effect on 1 January 1975.

Agricultural price supplements are subject to regular review by the Swiss authorities and up-to-date information is held in OTAR. Future changes in price supplements will not therefore be notified in *Trade and Industry*. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

Netherlands

Food regulations: milk decree. Milk Decree (Commodity Law) of 25 October 1974 (*Staatsblad* 699) was published on 3 December 1974, and comes into force on the sixth calendar month after date of publication. The Milk Decree (Commodity Law) (*Staatsblad* 1965, 430) is thereby revoked. Copies of the decree are available in Dutch and in the form of an English translation. Applications from British exporters for copies should be addressed to OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Belgium

Typewriters and calculating machines: price control. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 16, 23 January 1975, published a decree dated 10 January 1975 on the price control of typewriters (BN 84.51A) and calculating machines (BN 84.52). The decree entered into force on 23 January 1975. Copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Malta

Import licensing control. The Malta *Government Gazette*, 21 January 1975, announced that import licensing control was immediately to be placed on stainless steel sinks, paints, and men's suits and jackets, whether in a finished or partly finished state. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Israel

Tariff amendments. Amendments have been made to the Israeli customs tariff affecting items as follows:

09.01.1512 09.01.1593 09.02.9991
'If released before 1.1.75' is superseded by
'If released before 1.4.75'
29.25.3010 32.09.3000
'If released before 1.1.75' is superseded by
'If released before 1.1.76'

In the following items the tariff rate of 'IL.2.15 per sq. m. + 25 per cent *ad val.*' is superseded by 'IL.2.15 per sq. m. + 25 per cent *ad val.* but not less than I L.7.00 per sq. m.'.

50.09.1000	51.04.9140	51.04.9930	52.02.3000	53.11	53.12.1000
53.13.1000	55.09.3000	56.07.1030	56.07.2030	58.05.2050	58.09.1031
58.10.3010	59.13.1030	60.01.2010	60.01.9930	60.06.1030	

In the following items, the tariff rate of 'IL0.70 per sq. m. + 25 per cent *ad val.*' is superseded by 'IL.0.70 per sq. m. + 25 per cent *ad val.* but not less than IL.2.20 per sq. m.'.

50.09.9900	50.10.9900	51.04.9190	51.14.9990	52.02.9900	54.05
55.05	55.09.9900	56.07.1090	56.07.2090	58.04.3000	58.05.2090
58.09.9900	59.11.9910	59.12.9910	59.13.1090	60.01.9990	60.06.1090

In the following items, the tariff rate of 'IL.3.70 per sq. m. + 25 per cent *ad val*' is superseded by 'IL.3.70 per sq. m. + 25 per cent *ad val.* but not less than IL.9.00 per sq. m.'.

58.09.1032 58.103091 59.08.3050 60.01.2091

In the following items, the tariff rate of 'IL.4.50 per sq. m. + 10 per cent *ad val.*' is superseded by 'IL.4.50 per sq. m. + 10 per cent *ad val.*, but not less than IL .7.00 per sq. m.'.

58.09.1039 58.10.3099 59.08.3060 60.01.2099

In items 58.04.9900 and 59.08.3040, th etariff rate of 'IL.4.00 per sq. m. + 30 per cent *ad val.*' is superseded by 'IL 4.00 per sq. m. + 30 per cent *ad val.*, but not less than IL.10.00 per sq. m.'.

In items 59.08.3030 and 60.01.1090, the tariff rate of 'IL.5.70 per sq. m. + 30 per cent *ad val.*' is superceded by 'IL 5.70 per sq. m. + 30 per cent *ad val* but not less than IL.10.00 per sq. m.'.

No further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Purchase tax amendments. The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the Purchase Tax Order which affect the following items:

Fruit juices, sweetened and fermented fruit beverages (103); Wine (105); chocolates

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and chocolate-coated foods (107); instant coffee (109); spirituous beverages (199); yarn (201); tents (213); toilet preparations (402); engravings, prints and lithographs (802); lighting appliances and parts and accessories, lamps (901); round bars and rods classifiable under customs tariff 73.10 (1102); screws and bolts having a uniform diameter below their heads (1106); non-fibre plastic plates, sheets, foil, strip or ribbon (1404); motor vehicles (1507 and 1508).

The figures in brackets are Israeli purchase tax numbers.

British exporters with inquiries should specify the numbers in which they are interested. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Cars and vans: import ban extended. The Israeli authorities have announced that the import ban on private cars and delivery vans of up to 2.5 tons of BN 87.02 1090 (see *Trade and Industry* 26 December 1974) has been extended to 1 September 1975. No further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

Tariff amendments. The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the customs tariff which affect the following items:

12.01	13.03	17.03	18.04	21.07	25.23	27.10	28.42	29.22	29.27
32.07	38.09	38.11	38.19	39.01	39.02	39.07	40.13	44.01	44.03
44.05	44.08	44.15	44.18	44.21	48.01	53.02	53.05	53.06	53.07
53.08	53.09	53.10	56.01	56.02	56.04	56.05	56.06	59.02	59.03
59.08	59.12	61.01	64.05	68.10	71.07	73.10	73.12	73.13	73.14
73.15	73.20	73.27	73.32	76.11	76.13	83.15	84.20	84.40	84.59
85.01	85.02	87.02	87.03	87.04	87.06	90.13	90.18	90.24	91.05
96.02	98.11	99.02	99.05	99.06					

British exporters should specify the items in which they are interested. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Saudi Arabia

Artificial ghee and animal fats: import ban. The Saudi Arabian Ministry of Commerce and Industry has announced that for health reasons the import of artificial ghee and animal fats is to be banned. It is, however, granting a three-month grace period up to the end of March 1975, so that existing orders may be cleared. The ban does not affect natural butter and ghee. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5396.

South Africa

Hydraulic brake and clutch fluid. The South African *Government Gazette* No. 4562, 17 January 1975, carries details of the amended compulsory standard specification for hydraulic brake and clutch fluid which will come into effect on 17 July 1975. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Zambia

Exchange controls. Since 2 January 1975 the Bank of Zambia has again permitted arrangements to cover the external financing of consumer and unclassified goods with a repayment period of up to 180 days. No specific rate of interest has been indicated but bills covering interest up to 1½ per cent above base rate seem likely to be permitted. Full details of the arrangements may be obtained from correspondent banks in the United Kingdom of Barclays, Standard and Grindlays.

Finance and confirming houses may continue to charge confirming and buying commissions (up to 2 per cent) but may not include additional finance charges.

External financing for capital goods for the agricultural, industrial (particularly mining), transport and construction sectors can be arranged, but specific approval of the exchange control authorities is still required for each transaction.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/471/472/462.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

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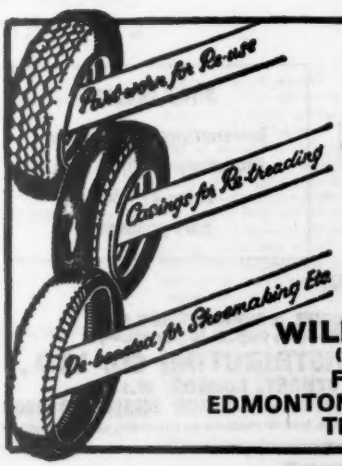

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Withdrawal of import licenses: The Zambian Minister of Commerce has announced that, in order to save foreign exchange and restrict imports of luxury commodities, all unutilised import licenses issued since 1 January 1974 must be returned to the Ministry of Commerce not later than 10 February 1975 for re-examination. Inquiries CRE 01-215 5794.

Malaysia

Textiles: import control. The Malaysian *Government Gazette* has published the following amendment to the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) Order 1973.

The Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) (Amendment) Order 1975 amends the second schedule of the 1973 order, from 9 January 1975, as follows:

Delete heading numbers 51.04 120, 51.04 210, 51.04 410, 51.04 520, 51.04 610, 51.04 910, 55.05 100, 56.05 200, 56.07 112, 56.07 119, 56.07 121, 56.07 129, 56.07 191, 56.07 199, 56.07 212, 56.07 221, 56.07 291, 58.04 310, 58.04 411, 58.04 421, 58.04 491, 58.04 511, 58.04 521 and 58.04 591 and all the particulars that follow.

Insert in their appropriate places heading numbers and particulars as follows:

Heading no.	Description of goods	Country
51.04	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (continuous), including woven fabrics of monofil or strips of heading No. 51.01 or 51.02:	
	of synthetic fibres:	
	printed:	
110	batek	All countries
120	suiting	All countries
190	other than batek or suiting	All countries
	coloured or dyed:	
210	suiting	All countries
290	other than suiting	All countties
	other than printed, coloured or dyed:	
410	suiting	All countries
490	other than suiting	All countries
	or regenerated fibres:	
	printed:	
510	batek	All countries
520	suiting	All countries
590	other than batek or suiting	All countries
	dyed:	
610	suiting	All countries
690	other than suiting	All countries
	other than printed or dyed:	
910	suiting	All countries
990	other than suiting	All countries
55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale:	
100	Unbleached, not mercerised	All countries
900	Other	All countries
55.06	Cotton yarn, put up for retail sale:	
100	Sewing thread	All countries
200	Crochet thread	All countries
300	Embroidery thread	All countries
900	Other	All countries
55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton:	
	Unbleached:	
110	cotton duck	All countries
190	other	All countries
	Other:	
	cotton duck:	
310	bleached	All countries
320	dyed	All countries
	other woven fabrics:	
910	bleached	All countries
920	dyed	All countries
	printed:	
930	batek	All countries
940	other	All countries
990	other	All countries
56.05	Yarn of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), not put up for retail sale:	
100	Of synthetic fibres	All countries
200	Of regenerated fibres	All countries
56.06	Yarn of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), put up for retail sale:	
	Of synthetic fibres:	
100	knitting yarn	All countries
190	other	All countries
	Of regenerated fibres:	
200	knitting yarn	All countries
290	other	All countries
56.07	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste):	
	Of synthetic fibres:	
	printed:	
111	batek	All countries
112	suiting	All countries
119	other than batek or suiting	All countries
	coloured or dyed:	
121	suiting	All countries
129	other than suiting	All countries
	other than printed, coloured or dyed:	
191	suiting	All countries
199	other than suiting	All countries
	Of regenerated fibres:	
	printed:	
211	batek	All countries
212	suiting	All countries
219	other than batek or suiting	All countries
	dyed:	
211	suiting	All countries
229	other than suiting	All countries
	other than printed or dyed:	
291	suiting	All countries
299	other than suiting	All countries
58.04	Woven pile fabrics and chenille fabrics (other than terry towelling or similar terry fabrics of cotton falling within heading No. 55.08 and fabrics falling within heading No. 58.05):	
100	of cotton	All countries
200	of silk	All countries
	of wool or fine animal hair:	
310	suiting	All countries
390	other than suiting	All countries
	of synthetic fibres:	
	printed:	
411	suiting	All countries
419	other than suiting	All countries
	coloured or dyed:	
421	suiting	All countries
429	other than suiting	All countries
	other than printed, coloured or dyed:	
491	suiting	All countries
499	other than suiting	All countries
	of regenerated fibres:	
	printed:	
511	suiting	All countries
519	other than suiting	All countries
	dyed:	
521	suiting	All countries
529	other than suiting	All countries
	other than printed or dyed:	
591	suiting	All countries
599	other than suiting	All countries
900	Other	All countries
60.01	Knitted or crocheted fabric, not elastic nor rubberised:	
100	of cotton	All countries
200	of wool	All countries
300	of man-made fibres	All countries
900	of other textile materials	All countries

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Export Data Branch
Export Services and Promotions Division
Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
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The second schedule lists goods prohibited from import into West Malaysia without an import licence. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 469/401/468.

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Australia

Tariff changes. Details are given below of changes in the Australian Customs Tariff, as set out in Customs tariff alteration notice no. 10 (1974) following Industries Assistance Commission inquiries into:

Foundation garments
Polyester and polyamide yarns
Tyre cord and tyre cord fabrics
Woven man-made fibre fabrics
Wood-working and metal-working machinery, etc.

The changes took effect on 19 December 1974.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
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OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section,
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ALTERATIONS TO PART II OF SCHEDULE 1 TO THE CUSTOMS TARIFF 1966-74

Tariff item	Goods	Rates of duty General and preferential
1. Omit sub-item 39.01.3, substitute the following sub-item:		
39.01.3	Planar forms, not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item, being textile fabrics (other than felt or bonded fibre fabrics) coated or covered on both sides with a product or products of a composition specified in an item (but not a sub-item) of this Chapter not being coatings or coverings which are capable of being seen, on both sides, with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour:	
39.01.31	Having a base fabric of a kind falling within sub-item 50.09.3, 50.10.2, 51.04.9, 55.09.4 or 56.07.9:	
39.01.311	As prescribed by by-law	40%
39.01.319	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
39.01.32	The coating or covering on each side not being capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour, not being goods falling within paragraph 39.01.31	The rate of duty set out in this column in the tariff classification that would apply to the goods if they were an uncoated, uncovered textile fabric of the same weight per m² as the goods and of the same composition, width and construction as the textile fabric in the goods, or, if there are two or more textile fabrics in the goods, as the textile fabric in the goods that has a greater weight than each other textile fabric in the goods
39.01.33	The coating or covering on one side being capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour, not being goods falling within paragraph 39.01.31	The rate of duty set out in this column in the tariff classification that would apply to the goods if they were a coated textile fabric falling within item 59.08, coated with the coating or covering on the goods that gives the goods their essential character and that is capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour
2. Omit sub-item 39.02.3, substitute the following sub-item:		
39.02.3	Planar forms, not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item, being textile fabrics (other than felt or bonded fibre fabrics) coated or covered on both sides with a product or products of a composition specified in an item (but not a sub-item) of this Chapter not being coatings or coverings which are capable of being seen on both sides with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour:	
39.02.31	Having a base fabric of a kind falling within sub-item 50.09.3, 50.10.2, 51.04.9, 55.09.4 or 56.07.9:	
39.02.311	As prescribed by by-law	40%
39.02.319	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
39.02.32	The coating or covering on each side not being capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour, not being goods falling within paragraph 39.02.31	The rate of duty set out in this column in the tariff classification that would apply to the goods if they were an uncoated, uncovered textile fabric of the same weight per m² as the goods and of the same composition, width and construction as the textile fabric in the goods, or, if there are two or more textile fabrics in the goods, as the textile fabric in the goods that has a greater weight than each other textile fabric in the goods
39.02.33	The coating or covering on one side being capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour, not being goods falling within paragraph 39.02.31	The rate of duty set out in this column in the tariff classification that would apply to the goods if they were a coated textile fabric falling within item 59.08, coated with the coating or covering on the goods that gives the goods their essential character and that is capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour
3. Omit sub-item 39.03.3, substitute the following sub-item:		
39.03.3	Planar forms, not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item, being textile fabrics (other than felt or bonded fibre fabrics) coated or covered on both sides with a product or products of a composition specified in an item (but not a sub-item) of this Chapter not being coatings or coverings which are capable of being seen on both sides with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour:	
39.03.31	Having a base fabric of a kind falling within sub-item 50.09.3, 50.10.2, 51.04.9, 55.09.4 or 56.07.9:	
39.03.311	As prescribed by by-law	40%
39.03.319	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
39.03.32	The coating or covering on each side not being capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour, not being goods falling within paragraph 39.03.31	The rate of duty set out in this column in the tariff classification that would apply to the goods if they were an uncoated, uncovered textile fabric of the same weight per m² as the goods and of the same composition, width and construction as the textile fabric in the goods, or, if there are two or more textile fabrics in the goods, as the textile fabric in the goods that has a greater weight than each other textile fabric in the goods
39.03.33	The coating or covering on one side being capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour, not being goods falling within paragraph 39.03.31	The rate of duty set out in this column in the tariff classification that would apply to the goods if they were a coated textile fabric falling within item 59.08, coated with the coating or covering on the goods that gives the goods their essential character and that is capable of being seen with the naked eye otherwise than by a change of colour
4. Omit sub-item 50.09.3, substitute the following sub-item:		
50.09.3	Fabrics not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item, containing less than 50 % by weight of silk or waste silk and not less than 20 % by weight of man-made fibres:	
50.09.31	As prescribed by by-law	40%
50.09.39	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
5. Omit sub-item 50.10.2, substitute the following sub-item:		
50.10.2	Fabrics containing less than 50% by weight of noil silk and not less than 20% by weight of man-made fibres, not printed:	
50.10.21	As prescribed by by-law	40%

Tariff item	Goods	Rates of duty General and preferential
50.10.29	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
6. After sub-item 51.01.3 insert the following sub-items:		
51.01.4	Yarn composed of not less than 50% by weight of polyamide fibre, polyester fibre or polyamide and polyester fibres, calculated by reference to the weight of man-made fibres in the yarn, not being: (a) goods falling within sub-item 51.01.2 or 51.01.3; or (b) goods entered for home consumption on or before 31 December 1976	15%
51.01.5	Yarn composed of not less than 50% by weight of polyamide fibre, polyester fibre or polyamide and polyester fibres, calculated by reference to the weight of man-made fibres in the yarn, not being: (a) goods falling within sub-item 51.01.2 or 51.01.3; or (b) goods entered for home consumption on or after 1 January 1977:	
51.01.51	As prescribed by by-law	15%
51.01.52	Raw yarn	15% and $1.00 per kg.
51.01.59	Other	15% and $2.00 per kg.
7. Omit sub-items 51.04.2 and 51.04.3, substitute the following sub-items:		
51.04.2	Tyre cord fabrics, not being goods falling within the last preceding sub-item:	
51.04.21	Of viscose	To and including 31 December 1976 – 37.5%; From and including 1 January 1977 to and including 31 December 1977 – 25%; From and including 1 January 1978 – 15%
51.04.29	Other	To and including 31 December 1975 – 20%; From and including 1 January 1976 – 15%
51.04.3	Elastomeric fabrics weighing not more than 510 grams per square metre, not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item	General 15%. Preferential 13%
8. Omit sub-items 51.04.5 and 51.04.9, substitute the following sub-items:		
51.04.5	Fabrics, as follows: (a) wholly of polyethylene or polypropylene or polyethylene and polypropylene; (b) containing more than 50% by weight of polyethylene or polypropylene or polyethylene and polypropylene, calculated by reference to the weight of man-made fibres in the fabric	To and including 31 December 1975 – 30%, or, if higher $0.15 per m²m; From and including 1 January 1976 to and including 31 December 1976 – 30% or, if higher, $0.10 per m²; From and including 1 January 1977 – 22.5%
51.04.9	Other:	
51.04.91	As prescribed by by-law	40%
51.04.99	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
9. Omit sub-item 55.09.2, substitute the following sub-item:		
55.09.2	Tyre cord fabrics	To and including 31 December 1975 – 20%; From and including 1 January 1976 – 15%
10. Omit sub-item 55.09.4, substitute the following sub-item:		
55.09.4	Fabrics containing not less than 20% by weight of man-made fibres, not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item:	
55.09.41	As prescribed by by-law	Free
55.09.42	As prescribed by by-law for the purposes of this paragraph	40%
55.09.49	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
11. Omit sub-item 56.07.9, substitute the following sub-item:		
56.07.9	Other:	
56.07.91	As prescribed by by-law	Free
56.07.92	As prescribed by by-law for the purposes of this paragraph	40%
56.07.99	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
12. In Note 2.-(3.) to Chapter 59 omit '59.08.3', substitute '59.08.4'.		
13. Omit sub-items 59.08.3 and 59.08.4, substitute the following sub-items:		
59.08.3	Having a base fabric of a kind falling within sub-item 50.09.3, 50.10.2, 51.04.9, 55.09.4 or 56.07.9, not being goods falling within a preceding sub-item of this item:	
59.08.31	As prescribed by by-law	40%
59.08.39	Other	40%, and $0.30 per m²
59.08.4	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with materials other than polymers or copolymers of the vinyl chloride type, with plastic addition exceeding 17 grams per square metre, not being goods falling within sub-items 59.08.1 or 59.08.3	30%, or if higher, the rate of duty set out in this column that would apply to the goods if they were uncoated, uncovered, non-impregnated or non-laminated fabrics of the same width and weight per m² as the goods and of the same construction and textile fibre composition as the textile fabric in the goods or, if there are two or more textile fabrics in the goods, as the textile fabric in the goods that gives the goods their essential character
59.08.5	Fabrics that do not have visible laminations (except in cross-section) of cellulose derivatives or other artifical plastic materials, not being goods falling within sub-item 59.08.3	The rate of duty set out in this column that would apply to the goods if they were the lamination that gives the goods their essential character
14. Omit item 61.09, substitute the following item:		
61.09	• Corsets, corset-belts, suspender-belts, brassieres, braces, suspenders, garters and the like (including such articles of knitted or crocheted fabric), whether or not elastic:	
61.09.1	Brassieres that are entered for home consumption on or after 1 January 1977	To and including 31 December 1977 – 30%; From and including 1 January 1978 – 25%
61.09.2	Brassieres that are entered for home consumption on or before 31 December 1976:	
61.09.21	As prescribed by by-law	To and including 31 December 1975 – 42%; From and including 1 January 1976 – 35%
61.09.29	Other	To and including 31 December 1975 – 42%, and $2.50 each; From and including 1 January 1976 – 35%, and $2.50 each
61.09.3	Other garments	To and including 31 December 1975 – 31%; From and including 1 January 1976 – 25%
15. Omit sub-item 70.20.2, substitute the following sub-item:		
70.20.2	Yarns; cords and cordage; braids; fabrics:	
70.20.21	Plastic coated yarns	General 34%. Preferential 26%
70.20.22	Tyre cord	30%
70.20.23	Tyre cord fabrics	To and including 31 December 1975 – 20%; From and including 1 January 1976 – 15%
70.20.24	Goods, not being goods falling within a preceding paragraph of this sub-item, as follows: (a) cords and cordage; (b) braids including tubular braids; (c) woven fabrics of a kind ordinarily used for industrial purposes, but not including fabric of a kind used solely or principally as insect screening.	General 30%. Preferential 22.5%
70.20.29	Other	General 22.5%. Preferential 15%
16. Omit sub-items 84.45.1 and 84.45.2, substitute the following sub-items:		
84.45.1	Extrusion presses; gang slitting machines	General 22.5%. Preferential 15%
84.45.2	Forging, hammering, riveting, bending, straightening, pressing, drawing, cutting, shearing, slitting or nibbling machines, not being goods falling within sub-item 84.45.1	General 25%. Preferential 25%
17. Omit item 84.50, substitute the following item:		
84.50	• Gas-operated welding, brazing, cutting and surface tempering appliances	15%
18. Omit item 85.05, substitute the following item:		
85.05	• Tools for working in the hand with self-contained electric motor	25%
19. Omit item 85.11, substitute the following item:		
85.11	• Industrial and laboratory electric furnaces, ovens and induction and dielectric heating equipment; electric welding, brazing and soldering machines and apparatus and similar electric machines and apparatus for cutting:	
85.11.1	Electric welding, brazing and soldering machines and apparatus and similar electric machines and apparatus for cutting; induction and dielectric heating equipment, not being furnaces or ovens	25%
85.11.9	Other	15%
20. Omit item 98.13, substitute the following item:		
98.13	• Corset busks and similar support for articles of apparel or clothing accessories	25%

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Shirts and nightwear: tariff changes. Details are given below of changes in the Australian customs tariff, as set out in Customs Tariff Alteration notice no. 3 (1975) operative on and from 17 January 1975.

ALTERATIONS TO PART II OF SCHEDULE 1 TO THE CUSTOMS TARIFF 1966-74

Tariff item	Goods	Rates of duty: General	Rates of duty: Preferential
1. Omit sub-item 60.04.1, substitute the following sub-item:			
60.04.1	Men's and boys' shirts:		
60.04.11	As prescribed by by-law	34%	15%
60.04.19	Other	34%, and $9.00 per kg.	15%, and $9.00 per kg.
2. Omit sub-items 61.03.1 and 61.03.2, substitute the following sub-items:			
61.03.1	Shirts (not being nightwear) and shirt fronts with or without collars:		
61.03.11	As prescribed by by-law	30%	15%
61.03.19	Other	30%, and $9.00 per kg.	15%, and $9.00 per kg.
61.03.2	Pyjamas and other nightwear:		
61.03.21	As prescribed by by-law	43%, or, if higher $1.43 per doz.	17%
61.03.29	Other	43%, and $9.00 per kg.; or, if higher, $1.43 per doz., and $9.00 per kg.	17%, and $9.00 per kg.

Ref. CRE 1418/74. Inquiries: ECB ext. 468/469/401.

Colour television receivers: Temporary Assistance Authority inquiry. A reference has been made to the Temporary Assistance authority on colour television receivers with a screen size of not less than 47 cm. (tariff item 85.15.1).

The public inquiry will be held in Canberra on 7 February 1975 and UK trade associations or firms intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Camberra A.C.T. 2600, Australia, without delay through their accredited agent.

Evidence may be submitted either directly by the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member. Ref. CRE 6/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Passenger vehicle quotas. The following import quotas on fully built up new and second hand passenger vehicles came into effect on 1 February 1975.

The total import in 1975 will be limited to 90,000 units at a rate of 5,500 per month in February, March and April and 7,500 per month for the remaining eight months. Quotas will be allocated among importers in proportion to their share of the total import for 1973/74. Completely knocked down vehicles are not affected.

Imports of completely built up light commercial vehicles up to 2,722 kilos gross vehicle weight, but excluding four-wheel drive vehicles, will be restricted to 1974 levels. Ref. CRE 28118. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

New Zealand

Tariff and Development Board reports. Copies of the following New Zealand Tariff and Development Board reports are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division:

Pine oil and terpineol, tariff items 38.07.009 and 29.05.003

Battery chargers, tariff item 85.01.059

Fresh, dried and canned mushrooms, tariff items ex 07.01.309, ex 07.04.009 and ex 20.02.299

Ref. CRE 62/74. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5321.

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Gilbert and Ellice Islands

Commonwealth preferences abolished in new tariff. A new Gilbert and Ellice Islands Tariff was introduced on 1 January 1975. This is a single line tariff and Commonwealth preferences no longer apply. All measurements in the new tariff are metric. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 469/468/401.

Canada

Advertising Material Remission Order. Regulations have been made by authority of Order in Council PC 1974-2522 19 November 1974 pursuant to section 17 of the Financial Administration Act. Subject to section 4, remission is granted of all customs duty and excise tax paid or payable on advertising material imported into Canada on or after 12 September 1974 relating to (a) goods offered for sale or rental, (b) transport services, or (c) commercial insurance services.

The remission mentioned in section 3 will be granted only if:

a each importation of advertising material:
  i consists of one document;
  ii consists of more than one document but does not include more than one copy of any one document; or
  iii irrespective of the number of documents or copies, does not exceed 1 kg. (2.205 lb.) in gross weight, and
b the advertising material clearly indicates the name of the foreign supplier of the goods or services and does not indicate any Canadian source of supply for the goods or services.

Samples Remission Order. Regulations have been made by authority of Order in Council PC 1974-2524 19 November 1974 pursuant to section 17 of the Financial Administration Act. Remission is granted of all customs duties and excise taxes paid or payable on imported samples of goods of all kinds where:

a the samples are:
  i of negligible value; and
  ii to be used only in soliciting orders for goods of the kind represented by the sample, and
b goods described in sub-paragraph a ii will be supplied direct from abroad.

For the purpose of subsection (1) a sample is deemed to be of negligible value where the aggregate of the customs duties and excise taxes payable in respect of the sample does not exceed one dollar.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Overseas publicity for UK trade fairs

British commercial representatives overseas are keen to publicise UK trade fairs and exhibitions, and welcome posters and brochures from fair organisers. But material must be sent well in advance – at least three clear months ahead of the event – and in sufficient quantity – two or three dozen copies for the representative in each area. A full list of addresses of commercial representatives is published as a quarterly supplement to *Trade and Industry*.

United States

Federal Register notices. The following notices of interest to British exporters have appeared in the US *Federal Register* on the dates given in parentheses at the end of each item.

Food labelling (further information). Confirmation of 30 June 1975 as the effective date for labelling of fruit jellies and preserves and related products. *Trade and Industry*, 28 November 1974. (FR 16 January 1975.)

Child resistant packaging. Proposals for iron preparations to be packaged in child resistant containers. Comments (five copies) by 17 March 1975. (FR 16 January 1975).

Onion imports. Proposal to amend minimum grade and size requirements for imported onions. Written comments (four copies) by 3 February 1975. (16 January 1975).

Standard for fresh tomatoes. Details of new photographic colour classification chart as a visual aid to the standard grading of fresh tomatoes. Effective date 1 February 1975. (FR 16 January 1975.)

Vehicle emergency air brake systems. Amendments to Standard 121 Air Brake Systems affecting truck and bus manufacturers. Effective date 1 September 1976. (FR 17 January 1975.)

Flammable children's sleepwear. Proposed rules by the CPSC on labelling standards for flame resistant children's sleepwear from size 7 to size 14. Comments (five copies) by 19 February 1975. The effective date of the finalised standard is 1 May 1975. (20 January 1975).

In each case a copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR ext. 456/457/7312.

St. Lucia

Alcohol, tobacco, motor spirits: consumption tax changes. The St. Lucia authorities by SRO 56 of 31 December 1974 have made the following amendments to the consumption tax:

BTN item no.	Desctiption of goods	Rate of tax
22.03.10	Bear and ale	$1.50 per liquid gallon
22.09.10	Rum in bottles and not overproof	$14.50 per liquid gallon
22.09.20	Brandy in bottles and not overproof	$18.00 per liquid gallon plus 10% *ad val* if cif value exceeds $30.00 per liquid gallon
22.09.21	Other brandy	$18.00 per liquid gallon plus 10% *ad val.* if cif value exceeds $30.00 per liquid gallon
22.09.30	Whisky in bottles and not overproof	$21.50 per liquid gallon
22.09.31	All other	$21.50 per liquid gallon
22.09.40	Gin in bottles and not overproof	$24.00 per liquid gallon
22.09.41	All other	$24.00 per liquid gallon
22.09.50	Vodka	$20.00 per liquid gallon
24.02.10	Cigars and cheroots	$5.00 per lb.
24.02.20	Cigarettes	$5.00 per lb.
27.10.10	Motor gasolene	$0.38 per gallon
27.10.30	Other motor spirits	$0.38 per gallon

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Jamaica

Processed foods: Export Industry Encouragement Law. The Jamaican Minister of Industry and Tourism is considering whether processed foods including dehydrated soups should be declared 'approved products' for the purposes of the Export Industry Encouragement Law, 1956.

'Approved manufacturers' of these products will enjoy income-tax relief, duty-free imports of building materials, plant, machinery, raw

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materials, etc., and other concessions. Applications for the status of 'approved product' and 'approved manufacturer' are processed by the Jamaican Industrial Development Corporation, 4 Winchester Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica (PO Box 505). It would be appreciated if firms writing to the corporation would copy their intitial correspondence to the British High Commission, Commercial Department, PO Box 393, Kingston, Jamaica. Inquiries: CRE ext. 3572.

Glass blades for louvre windows: duty exemptions. The Jamaican authorities by Resolutions made in December 1974 state that glass blades for louvre windows are exempt from consumption and custom import duty. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Nails, fencing, tiles: import licences. The Jamaican authorities by Notice to Importers 2926 of 15 January 1975, state that import licences will be issued freely, within reasonable limits, for the importation of galvanised nails, copper nails, hog fencing, and glazed wall tiles. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Peru

Alcoholic beverages sole tax increased. Decree law 21062 of 7 January 1975 increased the sole tax on all alcoholic beverages, both national and foreign, with the exception of beers. Beers will be allocated their own new rate of sole tax by a special decree law. The new rates of sole tax on imported alcoholic beverages are shown below:

	Unit	Rate (Soles (S/))
Alcohols	Per absolute volume	100.00
Whisky, gin, cognac, liqueurs, ciders, champagne and sparkling wines	Per litre volume	100.00
Wines	Per litre volume	30.00

Further information on the affect of the sole tax on imports of beer will be published when it becomes available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Legalisation of documents. The Consular Office of the Peruvian Embassy in London can no longer legalise documents relating to the despatch of ships, and merchandise sent by sea, air or parcel post to Peru. The consular fees will now be paid in Peru at the Customs of the port of entry. In order to arrange the importation of any goods or merchandise, an application form requesting the importation of goods must be presented to the Peruvian Customs Authority at the port of entry, with the following documents

Bill of Lading (only for sea freight)

Commercial invoice

Sworn declaration of the importer

Certificate of origin.

These documents do not require consular legalisation. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5289.

Bolivia

Textiles, motor vehicles, goods for domestic use: duty reductions. Decrees 12192 and 12193 issued on 17 January 1975 list substantial *ad valorem* and specific duty reductions on:

a Most textiles under Chapters 50 to 62;

b Certain goods for domestic use under headings 73.36, 73.38, 84.15, 84.40, 84.41, 85.06, 85.12, 85.15 and 87.09;

c Certain motor vehicles under headings 87.02, 87.04 and 87.09.

The information is being translated. British exporters, by specifying their products, can obtain further information from OTAR ext. 474/476.

Services to exporters

The following Government offices provide services for UK exporters:

Headquarters

Export Services and Promotions Division
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757. Telex 886143 DTI EXPORT LDN

Regional

Office for Scotland
314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF
Tel. 041-248 2855. Telex 77583 DTI GLASGOW

Inverness District Office
Caledonia House, 63/67 Academy Street, Inverness IV1 1LU
Tel. (0463) 30867

Office for Wales
Government Buildings, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF4 4YL
Tel. (0222) 62131. Telex 49267 DTI CARDIFF

Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Office
Priestley House, 1 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5LF
Tel. (0532) 443171. Telex 557925/6 DTI LEEDS

Northern Regional Office
Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4TR
Tel. (0632) 27575. Telex 53178 DTI NTYNE

Cumberland and Westmorland District Office
Town Hall, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9NP
Tel. (090-082) 3498/9. Telex 64173 DTI COCKERMOUTH

North-Western Regional Office
Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA
Tel. 061-236 2171. Telex 667104 DTI MCHR

West-Midlands Regional Office
Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DT
Tel. 021-632 4111. Telex 337021 DTI BHAM

East-Midlands Regional Office
Cranbrook House, 47 Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1ES
Tel. (0602) 46121. Telex 37143 DTI NOTTM

South-Western Regional Office
The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2PB
Tel. (0272) 291071. Telex 44214 DTI BRISTOL

Northern Ireland Department of Commerce
Chichester House, 64 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JX
Tel. (0232) 34488. Telex 747025 GOVNI BELFAST

European Community

Department of Industry consultations with EEC Commission

Since March 1974 the Department of Industry has consulted the Commission of the EEC over seven cases of proposed selective grant assistance to UK firms. In addition the Community has been consulted on changes in Assisted Area boundaries and the establishment in the UK of an open general licence system for iron and steel products. This was stated on 30 January in a written reply by Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, to a question from Mr. Richard Body MP.

Mr. Body has asked whether Mr. Benn would list the occasions on which he has had to consult the Commission of the EEC, in accordance with Community law or practice, before making a decision as to the policy of Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Benn said:

'On 20 December I undertook to report further to the House about the occasions on which I have been obliged to consult the Commission on policy matters under the terms of the European Community treaties.

First – Article 93.3 of the Treaty of Rome requires that the Commission should be informed in sufficient time to enable it to submit its comments, of any plans to grant or alter grants of aid. Since March 1974 the Commission has had to be informed of such plans in cases which are the responsibility of my Department on the following occasions:

i the decision to change Assisted Area boundaries;
ii proposals to grant selective assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 to the following firms:
a Marine Oil Industry Repair and Maintenance Ltd;
b Salvesen Offshore Holdings Ltd;
c Meriden Co-operative;
d Alfred Herbert Ltd;
e Aston Martin Lagonda Ltd;
f Scientific and Medical Instruments Ltd;
g British Leyland Motor Corporation Ltd.

Secondly – at the Government's request the Commission took a Decision on 25 June 1974 authorising the establishment in the United Kingdom of an Open General Licence system for iron and steel products.'

Note

There are two central areas of policy where the Department of Industry is obliged to consult the Commission; state aids to industry and steel. In the case of state aids the obligation under Article 93 is to inform the Commission of any plans to grant or alter aid. The answer lists those cases where we have given the Commission prior notification of a significant case of aid under the Industry Act to a firm outside the assisted areas, and also the changes that have been made to Assisted Area boundaries since 1 March 1974. The Department has also informed the Commission, as a matter of courtesy, of Government assistance by the acquisition of a shareholding which does not *a priori* constitute aid (eg in the case of KTM Machine Tools (Holdings) Ltd). In none of these cases has the Commission made any objection. Had they chosen to object the treaties give them the power to prevent our action unless we were able to prevail upon the European Court or the Council to decide otherwise.

In the ECSC field the Department consults with other Member States under Article 71 of the Treaty of Paris, which provides for co-ordination of commercial policies. This covers such items as export of scrap to third countries and the fixing of quotas for tariff exemption. Decisions are taken by representatives of the Governments of the Member States at Council meetings in which the Commission participates. A list of such decisions follows:

Subject	Date(s) of Decisions
Export of ferrous scrap to third countries	April, July, September
Temporary import of ferrous scrap	June
Temporary export of ferrous scrap	June
Export of rolling-mill cylinders	June
Export of alloy steel scrap to third countries	June
Tariff quotas for import of coils for re-rolling	March, June, October

1975 Tariff quota for high carbon ferro-chrome

In the description of the 1975 tariff quota for refined ferro-chrome listed on page 128 of *Trade and Industry* of 16 January 1975 it was noted that a tariff quota for high carbon ferro-chrome was under consideration. A Community zero duty quota of 34,500 tonnes has subsequently been agreed with an initial UK share of 8,100 tonnes and a Community reserve of 1,960 tonnes for ferro-chrome containing not less than 4 per cent by weight of carbon under tariff heading No. ex 73.02 E.I. The tariff quota, opened on 4 February, is provided for in Council (EEC) Regulation No. 195/75 (*Official journal of the European Communities* No. L21 of 28 January, 1975).

As from 4 February 1975 high carbon ferro-chrome that qualifies for tariff quota relief under the Regulation will be debited against the UK's quota share in the order in which any importer enters the goods for home use and claims relief from duty. Under Regulation (EEC) 195/75 Member States are authorised to give relief from duty within a limit of 20 per cent of their quota shares to imports of ferro-chrome containing between 3 per cent and 4 per cent by weight of carbon. As the United Kingdom quota share (including any drawings on the Community reserve) is not expected to be adequate for more than a few months for imports of ferro-chrome of 4 per cent carbon content and above, and as ferro-chrome users have not so far applied for quota relief for ferro-chrome between 3 per cent and 4 per cent carbon content, it is not intended to make use of this authorisation. It has however been agreed that there should be a review of the Community's needs for importing high carbon ferro-chrome later in 1975. Any user who considers that he requires ferro-chrome with a carbon content of between 3 per cent and 4 per cent or between 2 per cent and 4 per cent should inform Tariff Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, by 21 February, giving his requirements (in tonnes) and carbon content for 1975 with an indication of the country of origin and a statement of how much if any such ferro-chrome he expects to import from other Member States of the Community.

Temporary suspension of the Common Customs Tariff of the EEC

Trade and Industry of 9 January 1975 announced a review of existing suspensions of the Common Customs Tariff (CCT) of the Community. As a result of this review, objections to the continuation of the following suspensions beyond 30 June 1975 have been notified.

United Kingdom users who wish to object to the restoration of the duty on these items should state the grounds for their objection in writing to the Department of Trade, Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, not later than 20 February 1975 (tel. 01-215 5515 (chemicals) and 01-215 3576 (other goods)).

Tariff heading	Description	CCT suspended rate of duty	Objecting State
03.01 A Ib)	Salmon, fresh, chilled or frozen	Free	Ireland
ex 03.01 B Im2)	Mackerel, fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces	5	Ireland
03.02 A Ie)	Salmon, salted or in brine, whole, headless or in pieces	Free	Ireland
ex 03.03 A I	Crawfish meat, chilled or frozen	Free	Ireland
ex 07.05 B I	Beans, dried, leguminous, white (of the species phaseolus) for the canning industry	Free	France
ex 08.02 A II	Bitter or Seville oranges	Free	Italy
ex 16.04 C II	Spiced herrings, packed in barrels (semi-preserved), for the processing industry	Free	Ireland
ex 16.05 B	Shrimps and prawns other than those of the Cragnon variety, boiled in water and shelled, whether or not frozen, intended for the industrial manufacture of products falling within heading No. 16.05	10	Ireland
28.51 A	Heavy hydrogen (deuterium) and compounds thereof (including heavy water) : mixtures and solutions containing deuterium in which the ratio of the deuterium atoms to the normal hydrogen atoms exceeds 1 : 5,000 in number (EURATOM)	Free	France
ex 29.14 A IIC)4	17α, 21-Dihydroxy-16α-methylpregna-1,4, 9 (11)-triene-3,20-dione 21-acetate	9	France
ex 39.02 C XIVa	Copolymers of vinylidene chloride and hexafluoropropylene in one of the forms mentioned in Note 3(a) and (b) to Chapter 39 for use in the manufacture of aircraft tyres	9	Italy
ex 76.03	Aluminium alloy strip in coils containing not less than 18% by weight and not more than 23% by weight of tin and not less than 0.7% by weight and not more than 1.5% by weight of copper as the major alloying elements and having a width of not less than 75 mm. and not more than 230 mm. and a thickness of not less than 3.0 mm. and not more than 6.5 mm.	Free	Italy
ex 81.04 D I	Chromium in the form of cathode chips or pellets which contains not more than 0.10% by weight of total oxygen, not more than 0.015% by weight of total aluminium, and not more than 0.001% by weight of aluminium compounds insoluble in boiling 5N hydrochloric acid and in boiling fuming perchloric acid, and estimated as Al	Free	France

New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference points given at the end of the item.

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

General. Regulation (EEC) 121/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 269/73 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of accession compensatory amounts. (*Official Journal* L13, 18 January 1975)

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 85/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 120/67 on the common organisation of the market in cereals. (*Official Journal* L11, 16 January 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 86/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1968/73 laying down general rules to be applied in the event of the cereals market being disturbed. (*Official Journal* L11, 16 January 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 87/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 139/67 on the fixing of export refunds on cereals. (*Official Journal* L11, 16 January 1975)

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 120/75 making special provision to cover the transition from the 1974/75 to the 1975/76 milk year as regards the levying of accession compensatory amounts on butter in trade with United Kingdom. (*Official Journal* L13, 18 January 1975)

Soya beans. Regulation (EEC) 141/75 fixing for the 1974/75 marketing year the average world market price and the indicative yield for soya beans. (*Official Journal* L17, 22 January 1975)

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 142/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 616/72 as regards export levies on olive oil. (*Official Journal* L17, 22 January 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 154/75 on the establishment of a register of olive cultivation in the Member States producing olive oil. (*Official Journal* L19, 24 January 1975)

Dehydrated fodder. Regulation (EEC) 156/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1192/74 on aid for dehydrated fodder. (*Official Journal* L19, 24 January 1975)

Animal feedingstuffs. Tenth Commission Directive 75/50/EEC amending the Annexes to Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives in feedingstuffs. (*Official Journal* L19, 24 January 1975).

HARMONISATION OF LEGISLATION – Cold-water meters: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L14, 20 January 1975, contains the text of Directive 75/33/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cold-water meters.

Further information. Department of Industry, Computers, Systems and Electronic Division, Branch 3, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 6986.

Textile names. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L14, 20 January 1975, contains the text of Directive 75/36/EEC supplementing Directive 71/307/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to textile names as follows:

A sixth indent shall be added to Article 5 (1)

'. . . Friskklippet uld'

IMPORTS FROM NON-MEMBER STATES – Live sheep: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L19, 24 January 1975, contains the text of Decision 75/55/EEC authorising France to apply protective measures to live sheep falling within subheading 01.04 A I b) of the Common Customs Tariff and mutton and lamb falling within subheading 02.01 A ex IV of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in third countries and in free circulation in the other Member States.

COMMERCIAL POLICY – Imports from Eastern Area Countries: *Trade and Industry*, 19 December 1974, page 645, contained a notice about the interim arrangements for imports from Eaxtern Area countries during 1975. The text of the Decision referred to, No. 74/652/EEC, establishing, on a provisional basis, the 1975 quotas for each EEC Member State has now been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L358, 31 December 1974.

EEC/ARGENTINE AGREEMENT: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L14, 20 January 1975, contains the text of Decision 75/37/EEC concluding the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters extending to 31 December 1975 the Trade Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Argentine Republic.

This affects trade in certain of the products covered by Common Customs Tariff headings 02.01 A (meat of bovine animals, horses, asses and mules) and 02.06 A (horsemeat, salted, in brine or dried).

Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters extending the Trade Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Argentine Republic.

EEC information for businessmen: new free booklet

'EEC – Your Questions Answered', a new 80 page booklet published by the EEC Information Unit, contains answers to businessmen's inquiries on a wide range of EEC subjects. These include trade with EFTA and other countries associated with the Community, customs procedures and documentation, tariffs, market information and non-tariff barriers to trade. Some of these questions and answers have already appeared in *European Community Commentary* and have been updated where necessary; others have not previously been published.

The booklet also contains background information about how the Community works as well as a list of countries with association or trade arrangements with the EEC, a glossary of more commonly used initials and abbreviations, public holidays in EEC and EFTA countries in 1975, a check list of draft and adopted directives on technical standards, lists of publications, useful addresses and contacts both in Europe and the UK.

Copies are available, free of charge, from the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4301 (6 lines).

Export publicity for industry

Publicity for British exporters can often be obtained through use of the facilities of the Central Office of Information, who are concerned with collecting from industry items suitable for dissemination overseas by way of Government information services. The COI are interested in news items, feature article material, photographs, tape recordings for radio, films for television and other screening, Contact should be made with the nearest Regional Office covering your area.

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* National companies in central London, and particularly those with UK subsidiaries or branches, which require overseas publicity should consult Industrial Section at COI Headquarters: Mr E. Turnbull, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU (Tel: 01-938 2345 ext. 271 – Telex 915444).

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure: Total	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Manufacturing industry	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Distributive and service industries	Changes in stocks: Total	Changes in stocks: of which: Manufacturing industry	Changes in stocks: of which: Wholesalers	Changes in stocks: of which: Retailers	Balance of payments: Current balance	Balance of payments: Visible balance	Balance of payments: Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,404	9 223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	257	324	68	−23	685	−9	694
1971	101	103	100	94	102	−7	−126	52	−4	1,050	285	765
1972	104	109	103	85	115	−39	205	48	3	72	−677	749
1973	109	114	108	90	121	674	374	32	242	−1,198	−2,355	1,157
1974										−3,731	−5,190	1,459
1972 1st qtr.	101	106	103	90	107	−36	−62	17	−16	84	−121	205
2nd qtr.	104	108	103	84	115	−27	−106	1	38	121	−64	185
3rd qtr.	104	110	102	82	115	−13	−42	6	−13	−114	−284	170
4th qtr.	106	111	105	83	123	−37	7	24	−6	−19	−208	189
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	111	89	126	257	146	11	32	−192	−351	159
2nd qtr.	109	112	104	86	112	202	61	−9	163	−197	−399	202
3rd qtr.	110	114	109	91	120	94	68	6	22	−272	−602	330
4th qtr.	110	114	109	94	124	121	99	24	25	−537	−1,003	466
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	111	99	111	−261	−100	8	−73	−1,003	−1,318	315
2nd qtr.	109	112	103	99	107	227	138	42	11	−996	−1,369	373
3rd qtr.	111	114	103	99	115	179	216	−30	−28	−785	−1,166	381
4th qtr.										−946p	−1,336p	390p
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.9	−0.8	−6.7	+2.4	−5.9							
on a year earlier	+0.5	−0.2	−3.6	+11.5	−4.6							

	Index of industrial production: Total all industries	Index of industrial production: Total manufacturing industries	Personal expenditure: Retail sales	Personal expenditure: Cars: new registrations	Prices and costs: Index of retail prices: Index‡	Prices and costs: Index of retail prices: % increase on a year earlier	Prices and costs: Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Prices and costs: Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Prices and costs: Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Labour: Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Trade§: Exports	Trade§: Imports
				monthly averages									monthly averages	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		16 Jan. 1962		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	106.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	733	709
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	761	818
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.4	123.2•	115.5	581	2.6	304	955	1,151
1974				102.7	108.5†	16.0	240.2	151.9	138.2				1,288	1,721
1973 1st qtr.	109.9	109.9	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.9	667	2.9	228	878	995
2nd qtr.	109.6	110.1	108.3	136	177.9	9.3	133.3	120.1•	113.7	605	2.6	289	931	1,064
3rd qtr.	110.7	111.4	110.6	143	180.2	9.2	150.8	124.2	118.5	562	2.5	334	996	1,197
4th qtr.	109.4	110.4	112.0	119	186.8	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	489	2.2	364	1,013	1,384
1974 1st qtr.	103.4	105.5	109.9	103	101.4†	12.9	212.5	138.4	125.0	543	2.4	285	1,133	1,572
2nd qtr.	107.8	109.3	107.5	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.2	552	2.4	309	1,300	1,757
3rd qtr.	109.0	110.6	111.1	109	110.2	17.0	213.0	156.1	143.7	600	2.7	306	1,387	1,776
4th qtr.			112.0 p	96	115.1	18.2	221.8 p	164.7 p	152.9	••	••	••	1,333	1,778
1973 Dec.	106.2	107.0	112.6	103	188.2	10.6	175.1	130.6	122.0	470	2.1	362	1,025	1,354
1974 Jan.	101.2	102.3	109.2	93	191.8	12.0	209.5	134.1	123.7	535	2.4	304	1,023	1,395
Feb.	103.1	106.6	110.2	109	101.7†	13.2	213.1	138.5	124.7	549	2.4	278	1,154	1,616
Mar.	105.7	107.0	110.1	106	102.6	13.5	215.0	142.2	126.5	545	2.4	274	1,221	1,705
Apr.	107.3	109.0	108.1	97	106.1	15.2	215.4	146.3	127.9	546	2.4	297	1,273	1,667
May	107.5	108.6	105.8	105	107.6	15.9	214.0	148.9	132.0	548	2.4	314	1,291	1,774
June	108.6	110.4	108.3	111	108.7	16.5	211.7	151.1	136.8	561	2.5	317	1,337	1,829
July	109.5	111.0	109.3	106	109.7	17.1	212.3	153.5	139.7	582	2.6	317	1,336	1,810
Aug.	109.4	111.4	111.5	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.4	606	2.7	298	1,387	1,708
Sept.	108.1	109.4	112.3	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.2	612	2.7	303	1,438	1,809
Oct.	108.0	108.5	111.6	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2 p	148.3	607	2.7	297	1,340	1,770
Nov.	107.5	108.7	112.6	98	115.2	18.3	222.7 p	164.7 p	153.4	608	2.7	276	1,293	1,822
Dec.			111½p	87	116.9	19.1	222.0 p	167.2 p	156.9	••		••	1,366 p	1,743 p
1975 Jan.										675e	3.0	••		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−1.2	−1.9	+2.5	−12.0	+4.5		+4.1	+5.5	+6.3	+7.9		−5.3	−4	−
on a year earlier	−2.8	−2.7	+0.9	−19.4	+18.2		+32.8	+27.6	+26.2	+12.9		−13.8	+31.5	+32

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1974 = 100.
•• Figures not available.

Activity in the chemicals industry

This article is one of a quarterly series presenting the latest information available on activity in the chemicals industry. More detailed information at product level is published in the Business Moniter series in respect of most sectors of the industry.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	# fifty-three week
p provisional	period

Output (Table 1)

The volume of output of the chemicals industry in the third quarter of 1974 is estimated to have been nearly 4 per cent above the level of the second quarter, with the first nine months of 1974 indicating an annual rate of growth of 6 per cent over the corresponding period a year earlier. Sales of organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals and synthetic resins and plastics materials steadied in the third quarter, while sales of synthetic rubber and fertilisers were respectively 15 per cent and 12 per cent below the levels of the second quarter. The former was caused by the low demand for rubber manufactures, particularly by the motor vehicle industry, which is likely to continue for some time. Indications for the fourth quarter of 1974 point to a declining home market for chemicals generally with a consequent fall in sales. It is likely that a high proportion of the exceptional volume of sales at the beginning of 1974 went to stockbuilding of raw materials by customers. Sales in the fourth quarter may be lower than expected because stocks were being run down.

Imports and exports (Tables 2 and 3)

There was a steep rise in both exports and imports of chemicals in the third quarter of 1974 largely reflecting the rise in prices. Exports went up by over 80 per cent to £605 million at current prices while imports rose by nearly 90 per cent to £460 million. The deterioration in the favourable crude balance from £165 million in the second quarter to £144 million in the third quarter was to a considerable extent accounted for by trade in synthetic resins and plastics materials: exports fell back both in value and volume because of a declining international market while imports rose to make good shortages in the home market which persisted until the fourth quarter. The worsening in the crude trade balance was particularly marked in respect of trade with the rest of the EEC, with whom the adverse balance of £17 million in the second quarter increased to £50 million in the third quarter; synthetic resins and plastics materials were again the main contributor to this deterioration.

TABLE 1 Commodity sales and output

Index numbers 1970 = 100

Commodity sales	1968 MLH	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1973(a) 1st qtr.	1973(a) 2nd qtr.	1973(a) 3rd qtr.	1973(a) 4th qtr.	1974 (a) 1st qtr.	1974 (a) 2nd qtr.	1974 (a) 3rd qtr. (b)	% Growth rates p.a. 1966/73	% Growth rates p.a. 1972/73
General chemicals	271	79	83	90	97	100	104	110	134	130	132	136	139	150	154	160	7.8	21.8
Inorganic chemicals	271/1	95	97	101	101	100	99	99	111	111	111	110	110	122	124	124	2.2	12.1
Organic chemicals	271/2	69	73	81	94	100	107	121	155	147	150	156	168	178	184	191	12.3	28.1
Other chemicals	271/3	78	84	92	97	100	106	108	137	133	135	141	138	148	154	164	8.3	26.9
Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	272	67	70	77	89	100	101	106	124	121	122	127	127	136	133	135	9.2	17.0
Toilet preparations	273	95	98	98	97	100	106	113	131	121	135	129	139	144	134	150	4.6	15.9
Paint	274	85	89	93	95	100	108	116	133	143	127	130	132	130	130	136	6.6	14.7
Soap and detergents	275	97	96	98	101	100	100	109	112	117	109	108	114	125	116	124	2.0	2.8
Synthetic resins and plastics materials	276/1	71	77	89	102	100	101	111	141	135	138	146	146	145	150	152	10.4	27.0
Synthetic rubber	276/2	64	68	77	93	100	91	100	130	121	138	122	138	123	123	105	10.4	30.0
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	80	80	88	93	100	97	107	111	108	110	112	114	107	114	124	4.7	3.7
Fertilisers	278	93	101	102	95	100	106	87	86	85	75	115	107	104	111	88	0.4	10.3
Other chemical industries	279	92	98	97	97	100	103	109	120	116	115	122	126	123	113	120	3.9	10.1
Total output of industry	Order V	79.1	83.3	89.8	95.0	100.0	102.2	108.1	121.6	119.0	119.9	123.4	124.2	126.6	127.1	131.8	6.3	12.5
Total all manufacturing industry		89.2	89.8	95.8	99.6	100.0	99.6	102.0	110.5	109.9	110.1	111.4	110.4	105.5	109.3	110.6	3.1	8.3

(a)) Seasonally adjusted. (b) Provisional

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TABLE 2 Imports of the chemical industry: current prices

£ million

	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other chemicals	Pharm. chems. and preps.	Toilet prepara-tions	Paint	Soap and deter-gents	Synthetic resins	Synthetic rubber	Dyestuffs and pigments	Ferti-lisers	Products of other chemical industries	Total
	271/1	271/2	271/3	272	273	274	275	276/1	276/2	277	278	279	
1963	18.5	54.7	32.1	8.4	2.0	1.9	4.0	42.6	10.8	11.2	20.1	12.0	218.4
1964	26.0	71.0	38.0	8.9	2.7	2.2	3.3	53.5	11.7	14.9	18.8	14.2	265.1
1965	29.4	86.0	43.4	13.4	2.8	2.4	3.6	53.6	10.0	15.3	19.6	15.6	295.1
1966	33.1	85.4	43.2	16.4	3.2	2.7	5.0	58.4	11.1	15.7	17.9	17.1	309.2
1967	38.0	95.4	44.2	17.5	3.3	3.4	5.7	64.2	13.0	17.9	26.3	13.0	347.9
1968	46.8	118.1	59.1	21.8	4.4	4.5	7.5	81.3	14.6	24.8	29.2	22.8	434.9
1969	56.9	136.4	66.6	29.1	4.6	4.8	6.7	91.4	16.8	25.0	24.2	24.1	486.6
1970	70.5	160.7	71.7	38.4	5.1	5.5	5.8	109.0	18.8	26.7	23.1	30.6	565.9
1971	68.3	147.3	82.5	42.2	6.2	5.9	9.4	116.5	20.5	35.7	25.9	34.9	595.2
1972	74.6	160.6	102.7	49.1	9.0	5.5	12.6	140.1	20.7	39.2	32.9	39.9	686.9
1973	96.7	236.9	125.9	74.3	15.1	7.7	14.2	199.3	27.0	54.5	35.2	55.3	942.0
1969 1st quarter	13.0	30.7	17.7	6.3	0.8	1.0	1.6	20.3	3.9	6.5	8.0	6.0	115.8
2nd quarter	15.2	34.6	16.8	7.1	1.2	1.3	1.7	24.9	4.6	6.8	5.7	6.3	128.2
3rd quarter	14.3	35.0	15.4	7.7	1.4	1.3	1.7	23.4	4.1	5.7	6.1	6.3	122.4
4th quarter	14.4	36.0	16.7	8.0	1.1	1.3	1.6	22.8	4.2	8.0	4.4	5.6	122.1
1970 1st quarter	17.3	37.6	16.9	9.6	0.0	1.3	1.3	25.1	4.5	5.7	7.3	8.1	135.5
2nd quarter	17.3	40.5	19.4	8.8	1.4	1.5	1.6	28.1	5.2	8.7	4.4	7.7	142.8
3rd quarter	16.7	40.4	17.0	9.1	1.6	1.6	1.4	27.3	4.0	7.5	4.9	7.7	139.2
4th quarter	19.2	42.2	18.5	10.9	1.2	1.1	1.5	28.4	5.0	6.8	6.5	7.2	148.4
1971 1st quarter	18.0	40.2	20.2	10.3	1.3	1.3	1.9	28.3	4.6	9.2	8.9	9.9	153.9
2nd quarter	18.6	36.4	21.8	10.8	1.8	1.4	2.6	29.7	5.3	9.5	5.1	9.0	152.1
3rd quarter	13.9	35.3	21.7	9.9	1.8	1.6	2.5	30.7	5.6	8.3	6.0	8.2	145.4
4th quarter	17.8	35.4	18.9	11.2	1.3	1.6	2.4	27.8	5.0	8.7	6.0	7.7	143.8
1972 1st quarter	18.3	38.8	28.3	11.2	1.7	1.3	4.2	33.9	4.9	9.8	9.8	10.4	172.6
2nd quarter	19.4	37.3	28.1	11.2	2.0	1.4	2.6	34.8	5.3	9.8	10.5	10.4	172.7
3rd quarter	16.5	37.2	22.4	12.5	2.3	1.2	2.6	33.8	4.8	9.5	4.8	9.1	166.8
4th quarter	20.3	47.2	23.9	14.2	3.0	1.5	3.3	37.7	5.7	10.1	7.8	10.1	184.8
1973 1st quarter	24.4	47.6	28.6	15.6	2.5	1.8	3.2	43.6	6.0	12.6	12.1	13.8	211.7
2nd quarter	23.0	54.3	26.8	17.3	3.9	1.8	3.6	46.0	7.1	13.3	7.6	13.0	217.7
3rd quarter	23.7	62.8	32.7	21.1	4.4	2.0	3.6	51.6	6.7	14.8	7.5	14.0	244.8
4th quarter	25.6	72.2	37.8	20.4	4.3	2.1	3.8	58.2	7.2	13.7	8.0	14.5	267.7
1974 1st quarter	32.7	104.1	42.1	24.4	4.8	2.6	4.6	78.8	8.3	18.7	12.3	19.6	355.0
2nd quarter	35.6	139.8	47.2	27.4	5.7	2.9	6.8	90.0	9.9	19.1	13.0	21.7	417.1
3rd quarter	41.2	140.3	60.7	28.7	5.7	3.4	7.4	105.5	10.5	18.5	15.7	22.8	460.4

TABLE 3 Exports of the chemical industry: current prices

£ million

	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other chemicals	Pharm. chems. and preps.	Toilet prepara-tions.	Paint	Soap and deter-gents	Synthetic resins	Synthetic rubber	Dyestuffs and pigments	Fertilisers	Products of other chemical industries	Of which: Pesticides	Photo-graphic materials	Total
	271/1	271/2	271/3	272	273	274	275	276/1	276/2	277	278	279	279/4	279/7	
1963	34.7	58.3	57.0	50.9	10.7	14.0	15.2	61.0	7.2	30.3	4.9	47.2	10.5	13.4	391.4
1964	38.6	65.2	63.7	56.4	11.3	14.3	15.3	71.2	7.8	35.6	5.9	51.8	12.1	14.7	437.1
1965	42.5	64.6	70.9	63.6	12.0	14.0	15.3	79.8	9.2	35.6	8.1	54.3	11.9	16.4	470.0
1966	41.9	69.7	74.3	70.4	13.0	14.1	14.9	86.0	10.7	36.8	7.8	60.3	15.0	17.2	498.7
1967	41.4	75.4	77.5	75.2	14.0	13.4	16.2	91.5	10.0	37.5	8.4	63.6	17.0	19.1	524.0
1968	50.1	99.3	93.9	92.6	17.3	16.3	18.6	107.0	14.1	45.1	7.5	82.9	21.0	27.3	644.7
1969	51.3	109.8	109.5	112.9	20.4	17.6	22.5	124.1	17.5	50.1	6.4	99.0	26.2	33.5	740.1
1970	61.5	135.7	127.0	134.1	22.4	19.5	23.5	139.1	19.8	53.6	4.8	105.0	26.5	39.8	846.2
1971	62.7	154.4	148.9	161.1	23.9	21.6	23.8	154.9	22.2	58.7	3.6	121.0	32.7	45.3	956.8
1972	58.0	160.5	155.3	172.9	28.2	19.7	28.8	171.4	25.7	79.2	7.0	122.7	33.5	53.5	1,029.2
1973	81.5	244.1	198.0	212.6	34.4	24.2	38.0	217.5	34.3	107.0	14.8	160.1	42.0	64.5	1,356.3
1969 1st quarter	11.5	24.3	23.8	25.3	4.3	4.0	4.9	27.8	4.2	11.1	1.9	22.4	6.4	6.6	165.6
2nd quarter	13.8	26.8	28.5	28.6	5.0	4.4	5.1	32.3	4.3	12.7	1.0	26.3	7.3	9.0	188.8
3rd quarter	13.2	28.7	29.0	29.0	5.1	4.4	6.2	30.2	4.0	12.4	0.8	24.8	6.1	8.9	187.8
4th quarter	12.8	30.0	28.3	29.9	5.9	4.9	6.3	33.8	5.0	13.9	1.6	25.5	6.4	9.0	197.9
1970 1st quarter	13.7	31.8	29.1	31.0	5.0	4.3	5.6	33.2	4.4	12.5	1.7	25.0	8.0	8.1	197.2
2nd quarter	18.3	33.0	31.6	32.7	6.0	5.1	6.0	37.8	5.9	14.3	1.4	29.4	8.3	11.1	221.4
3rd quarter	13.8	32.6	30.5	31.3	5.3	4.4	5.6	31.2	4.6	12.7	0.6	24.0	5.1	10.3	196.7
4th quarter	15.9	38.3	35.8	39.0	6.2	5.6	6.3	37.0	4.9	14.1	1.1	26.5	5.0	10.3	230.8
1971 1st quarter	14.8	35.3	30.5	34.3	5.1	4.9	5.6	34.2	5.3	13.2	1.4	26.8	8.1	9.5	211.6
2nd quarter	16.7	41.2	37.6	44.6	5.9	5.6	6.2	39.8	5.0	14.7	0.8	33.3	9.8	12.3	251.2
3rd quarter	15.3	38.1	42.4	40.4	6.0	5.2	6.0	38.2	5.5	14.8	0.4	28.7	7.1	11.8	241.0
4th quarter	15.8	39.9	38.3	41.9	6.9	5.8	6.0	42.7	6.4	16.0	1.0	32.2	7.7	11.8	253.1
1972 1st quarter	12.6	36.0	37.5	41.7	6.4	4.7	6.9	41.2	6.8	17.6	1.8	28.5	9.0	11.1	241.9
2nd quarter	16.7	43.7	42.3	43.7	7.3	5.7	7.9	45.7	6.6	22.0	1.4	37.1	11.8	15.0	280.1
3rd quarter	11.5	37.1	34.4	37.7	5.9	3.9	6.0	34.1	5.1	16.7	1.4	24.2	4.9	12.4	218.1
4th quarter	17.1	43.6	41.2	49.9	8.5	5.4	8.0	50.3	7.2	22.9	2.4	32.8	7.8	15.0	289.3
1973 1st quarter	16.6	52.4	42.5	48.5	7.8	5.3	8.7	50.8	7.9	23.8	3.9	36.9	12.5	14.0	305.0
2nd quarter	19.9	58.8	52.0	54.3	8.7	6.2	9.5	55.0	8.9	25.6	3.7	41.0	11.8	17.9	343.6
3rd quarter	21.4	62.5	48.8	52.5	8.8	5.9	9.1	50.5	8.1	26.3	2.1	35.1	8.2	16.5	331.1
4th quarter	23.6	70.5	54.6	57.3	9.0	6.8	10.7	61.2	9.4	31.2	5.0	37.0	9.5	16.1	376.6
1974 1st quarter	26.2	105.6	58.0	61.6	9.8	7.5	12.7	72.4	10.9	39.9	9.7	48.1	15.3	18.2	462.4
2nd quarter	31.8	144.5	77.3	69.4	11.6	9.9	17.6	96.5	12.7	45.2	9.4	56.7	16.2	23.6	582.6
3rd quarter	35.3	150.7	84.7	75.7	12.8	10.6	18.3	95.7	12.0	41.5	10.0	57.4	12.3	25.8	604.7

TABLE 4 Home market prices

1970 = 100

	1968 MLH	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1972				1973				1974		
								1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.
Inorganic chemicals	271/1	92.6	95.0	100.0	108.0	112.3	116.8	111.0	111.6	112.5	114.3	114.9	115.2	117.4	119.7	126.2	137.7	145.7
Organic chemicals	271/2	98.7	98.3	100.0	106.3	108.1	112.9	106.9	108.0	108.3	109.1	110.0	111.2	113.5	117.0	157.4	189.0	197.5
Other chemicals	271/3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pharmaceutical chemicals	272	86.6	87.5	100.0	110.4	107.7	112.6	109.6	106.8	106.9	107.4	106.9	106.9	115.4	121.3	126.1	130.8	139.0
Pharmaceutical preparations	272	99.7	98.3	100.0	103.6	109.1	112.3	106.7	108.0	110.3	111.4	111.5	110.6	112.7	114.5	117.1	122.8	130.0
Toilet preparations	273	92.3	93.9	100.0	108.3	118.6	124.3	114.0	117.7	120.0	122.6	123.1	123.4	125.0	125.9	129.0	134.8	138.9
Paint	274	93.1	94.0	100.0	112.4	120.6	127.5	117.0	118.1	122.7	124.4	124.7	125.1	127.0	133.4	141.5	159.5	165.8
Soap and synthetic detergents	275	90.6	93.5	100.0	103.0	112.3	123.8	110.7	111.8	112.5	114.3	115.1	118.1	128.7	133.3	145.3	160.7	168.4
Synthetic resins and plastic materials	276/1	96.5	97.1	100.0	102.6	103.8	105.6	103.8	103.8	103.5	104.2	104.1	103.7	106.0	108.7	133.0	156.7	163.9
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	89.2	93.1	100.0	111.6	115.7	122.6	114.5	115.0	116.0	117.4	117.8	120.9	123.7	125.5	131.4	138.7	144.4
Total	Order V*	94.7	95.5	100.0	108.2	113.7	118.9	111.4	112.7	114.2	116.5	117.0	117.1	119.2	122.5	135.3	150.3	158.3
Total all manufacturing industry		89.9	93.4	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	112.1	113.5	115.6	118.0	119.5	120.1	124.2	129.1	138.3	148.9	156.0

* This price index refers only to sales outside the chemicals industry, including sectors not shown above.
.. not available.

TABLE 5 Prices of materials and fuel purchased by the chemicals and allied industries (Order V) and by manufacturing industry

1970 = 100

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1971		1972				1973				1974		
							3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.
Order V	91.2	93.5	100.0	108.8	112.2	135.9	110.4	109.6	109.1	110.5	113.0	116.5	120.5	126.8	141.9	154.5	200.7	214.1	219.3
Manufacturing industry	91.5	95.0	100.0	104.6	109.2	144.5	105.6	104.8	105.6	106.1	109.4	115.6	126.0	133.3	150.9	167.6	214.3	215.8	215.8

Prices (Tables 4 and 5)

The rate of increase in home market prices of chemicals slackened considerably in the third quarter. Following sharp rises of 10 per cent in the first quarter and 11 per cent in the second quarter they went up by only 5 per cent in the third quarter, roughly in line with the rise in prices of all manufactured goods. The slower rate was particularly marked in the case of organic chemicals – up by 4 per cent after rises of 35 per cent and 20 per cent in the first and second quarters respectively – and synthetic resins and plastics materials – up by 5 per cent following increases of 22 per cent and 18 per cent. Prices of materials and fuel purchased by the industry rose by only 2 per cent in the third quarter with rises of 7 per cent in the second quarter and 30 per cent in the first quarter. Prices of purchases by all manufacturing industry, on the other hand, remained relatively unchanged during 1974.

Employment (Table 6)

It is provisionally estimated that there were 440.5 thousand employees in the chemicals industry in September 1974. This is a 2 per cent increase on the March and June levels, and a 3 per cent increase on the September 1973 level. There are indications that employment in December may have been slightly higher than in September 1974.

TABLE 6 Employment (Great Britain)†

Thousands

	MLH	1973 Mar.	1973 June	1973 Sept.	1973 Dec.	1974 Mar.	1974 June	1974 Sept.
General chemicals	271	135.7	134.8	134.8	136.8	135.8	135.8	138.1
Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	272	73.9	74.2	75.4	77.6	78.0	..	..
Toilet preparations	273	25.2	26.2	27.4	28.1	27.4	..	..
Paint	274	26.3	26.8	27.0	26.8	26.4	..	..
Soap and detergents	275	15.0	14.9	15.1	15.2	14.8	..	..
Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber	276	46.6	46.6	47.2	48.4	46.9	..	..
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	20.9	21.8	22.0	22.3	22.0	..	..
Fertilisers	278	11.2	10.7	10.6	10.9	11.0	..	..
Other chemicals industries	279	69.0	68.6	69.3	69.7	69.0	..	..
Total		423.7	424.5	428.9	435.8	431.3	432.6	440.5
Total manufacturing		7,656.6	7,664.0	7,700.2	7,751.6	7,614.0	7,609.5	7,662.5

Source: Department of Employment. Figures from June 1973 are provisional. New Series introduced in June 1974.
† Employment in the chemicals industry in Northern Ireland is about 2,200 of which 500 is in General Chemicals: 800 in Synthetic Resins and Plastics Materials and 600 in Fertilisers. Estimates from 2 July are subject to revision when the results of the 1973 census of employment are available.
.. Not available.

Capital expenditure (Table 7)

Capital expenditure in the third quarter of 1974 was £101 million at current prices. The seasonally adjusted series at constant prices indicates an upward trend in capital expenditure during 1974, although the present level is still far below the level of several years ago. In constant price terms capital expenditure reached a peak in 1970, but subsequently steadily declined until the beginning of 1974. Investment in the first three quarters of 1974 was some 13 per cent above that in the corresponding period of 1973.

TABLE 7 Capital expenditure

	Current prices	£ million 1970 prices
1963	128	174
1964	162	216
1965	217	275
1966	254	305
1967	215	256
1968	223	256
1969	268	296
1970	383	383
1971	367	334
1972	308	263
1973	281	216
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1970 1st quarter	82	92
2nd quarter	90	95
3rd quarter	94	96
4th quarter	117	100
1971 1st quarter	89	89
2nd quarter	82	80
3rd quarter	91	84
4th quarter	105	81
1972 1st quarter	84	76
2nd quarter	78	70
3rd quarter	71	62
4th quarter	75	55
1973 1st quarter	68	56
2nd quarter	68	56
3rd quarter	65	52
4th quarter	80	52
1974 1st quarter	81	59
2nd quarter	87	61
3rd quarter	101	65

TABLE 1 Volume of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of sales per week (average 1971 prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 £ million Provisional estimates)	All kinds of business (15,895)	Food shops (6,693)	Non-food shops Total (9,202)	Clothing and footwear shops (2,314)	Durable goods shops (1,801)	Other non-food shops (†) (5,087)
1971	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1972	**105.8**	**101.5**	**109.0**	**105**	**116**	**109**
1973	**110.7**	**101.0**	**117.7**	**109**	**127**	**118**
1974	109.9	101.8	115.9	107	123	117
1972 1st quarter	**102.1**	**99.9**	**103.7**	**100**	**107**	**104**
2nd quarter	**104.8**	**101.1**	**107.4**	**104**	**114**	**107**
3rd quarter	**107.3**	**101.7**	**111.4**	**108**	**118**	**111**
4th quarter	**109.2**	**103.1**	**113.5**	**107**	**122**	**114**
1973 1st quarter	**111.8**	**100.8**	**119.8**	**116**	**130**	**118**
2nd quarter	**108.3**	**100.7**	**113.8**	**105**	**122**	**115**
3rd quarter	**110.6**	**101.4**	**117.3**	**108**	**127**	**118**
4th quarter	**112.0**	**101.3**	**119.8**	**109**	**130**	**121**
1974 1st quarter	109.8 r	100.1	116.8 r	107	122	119 r
2nd quarter	107.3 r	100.8	112.2 r	103	118	114 r
3rd quarter	111.0 r	103.3	116.7 r	111	124	117
4th quarter	111.6	103.0	118.0	108	128	119
1973 October	**111.2**	**99.4**	**119.7**	**110**	**129**	**121**
November	**112.1**	**100.9**	**120.3**	**109**	**132**	**121**
December*	**112.6**	**103.1**	**119.4**	**108**	**126**	**121**
1974 January	109.1 r	99.4	116.2 r	108	117	119 r
February	110.1 r	100.3	117.3 r	108	125	119
March*	110.0 r	100.6	116.8 r	106	123	120
April	107.9 r	100.3	113.6 r	104 r	121 r	115 r
May	105.6 r	100.2	109.7 r	98	117	112 r
June*	108.2 r	101.7	113.0 r	106	116	116
July	109.2 r	102.3	114.2 r	107	121 r	116 r
August	111.4 r	102.7	117.7 r	111 r	125	118
September*	112.2 r	104.5	117.8 r	113	126	117
October	111.4 r	102.8	117.8 r	111	124	118 r
November	112.8 r	103.9	119.3 r	108	132	120
December*	110.8	102.4	117.0	104	128	119
1974 July-Sept.	111.0 r	103.3	116.7 r	111	124	117
Oct.-Dec.	111.6	103.0	118.0	108	128	119
Percentage increase	0.5	−0.3	1.1	−3	3	2

TABLE 2 Value of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 £ million Provisional estimates)	All kinds of business (15,895)	Food shops (6,693)	Non-food shops Total (9,202)	Clothing and footwear shops (2,314)	Durable goods shops (1,801)	Other non-food shops (†) (5,087)
1971	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1972	**112.0**	**108.9**	**114.2**	**112**	**118**	**114**
1973	**126.9**	**122.8**	**129.9**	**128**	**136**	**128**
1974	146.7	144.5	148.2	149	143	150
1972 1st quarter	**105.8**	**104.7**	**106.6**	**104**	**109**	**107**
2nd quarter	**109.3**	**106.4**	**111.4**	**110**	**115**	**111**
3rd quarter	**114 1**	**110.2**	**117.0**	**116**	**121**	**116**
4th quarter	**118.6**	**114.3**	**121.7**	**118**	**127**	**121**
1973 1st quarter	**123.5**	**115.5**	**129.3**	**130**	**138**	**126**
2nd quarter	**122.0**	**119.9**	**123.6**	**121**	**128**	**123**
3rd quarter	**127.8**	**124.5**	**130.2**	**129**	**136**	**129**
4th quarter	**134.2**	**131.3**	**136.3**	**134**	**141**	**136**
1974 1st quarter	136.8 r	134.6	138.4 r	139	135	139
2nd quarter	140.6 r	139.7	141.3 r	141	135	144 r
3rd quarter	150.6 r	147.9	152.6 r	157	146	153
4th quarter	158.6	155.8	160.6	159	156	163
1973 October	**132.4**	**128.4**	**135.3**	**134**	**139**	**135**
November	**134.1**	**130.9**	**136.4**	**133**	**143**	**135**
December*	**135.7**	**134.0**	**137.0**	**135**	**141**	**137**
1974 January	134.7 r	133.1	135.8 r	137	129	138 r
February	137.0 r	134.2	138.9 r	141	137	139 r
March*	138.4 r	136.2 r	140.0 r	140 r	138 r	141
April	138.9 r	137.4	140.0 r	140	135	142 r
May	138.7 r	139.0	138.4 r	134	135	142 r
June*	143.5 r	142.1	144.6 r	147	136	147 r
July	146.6 r	144.7 r	148.0 r	149	142	149
August	150.5 r	146.7 r	153.3 r	158	146	154
September*	154.0 r	151.5	155.8 r	162	149	155
October	156.4 r	153.2 r	158.8 r	163	148	161 r
November	160.3 r	157.5	162.2 r	159	161	164
December*	159.0	156.5	160.8	155	159	164
1974 July-Sept.	150.6 r	147.9 r	152.6 r	157	146	153
Oct.-Dec.	158.6	155.8	160.6	159	156	163
Percentage increase	5.3	5.3	5.2	1	7	6

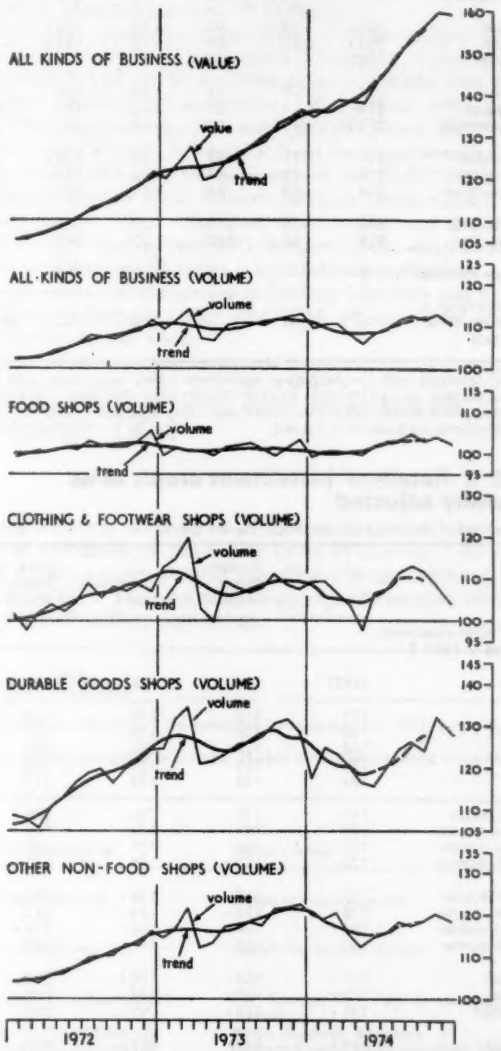
Retail sales in December 1974

Volume

The final seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in December is 110.8 (1971 = 100), a slightly larger fall back from the November figure than provisionally estimated.

The average volume of sales in November and December, taking these two months together for reasons described below, was 111.8, continuing the broadly flat path of the previous three months – about ½ per cent above the average level in the second half of 1973.

The level of trade in November and December seems likely to have been influenced by the effects of pre-Budget buying (particularly in durable goods shops) and also the special £10 pay-



The indices for all shops, food shops and total non-food shops are shown to the first decimal place to help interpretation, but should not be regarded as necessarily accurate to the final digit. The best indication of the recent trend is normally obtained by comparing the average index for the latest three months with the average for the immediately preceding three months but month to month fluctuations may sometimes make it preferable to average two or four months.

The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The December 1974 sales period was the five weeks from 24 November 1974 to 28 December 1974. The corresponding period in 1973 was from 25 November 1973 to 29 December 1973.

Minor end-year revisions have been made to the seasonally adjusted figures for 1974 to bring the totals for the year into line with the totals of the unadjusted figures. Some revision, either upward or downward, usually has to be made at the end of the year because the seasonally adjusted figures do not as a rule add up precisely to the recorded totals.

(†) Including department stores and mail order business.

r = revised figure.

The press notice giving the *provisional* estimates of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales for January and the increase in the value of sales compared with a year earlier will be published later this month.

TABLE 1 Hire-Purchase and other instalment credit business seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total		Finance Houses†		Retailers‡	
	New credit extended	Increase in debt	New credit extended	Increase in debt	New credit extended	Increase in debt
1970	1,735	84	822	58	913	26
1971	2,053	240	990	165	1,063	75
1972	2,497	424	1,222	296	1,275	128
1973	2,871	438	1,453	332	1,418	106
1974	2,517	−155	1,037	−160	1,480	5
1973 1st quarter	761	171	397	131	364	40
2nd quarter	681	87	338	62	343	25
3rd quarter	717	103	366	82	351	21
4th quarter	712	77	352	57	360	20
1974 1st quarter	576 r	−68 r	232 r	−57 r	344 r	−11 r
2nd quarter	614 r	−43 r	255	−45	359 r	2 r
3rd quarter	648 r	−15 r	270 r	−28	378 r	13 r
4th quarter	679	−29	280	−30	399	1
1974 April	202 r	−13 r	83	−16	119 r	3 r
May	207 r	−16r	89	−12	118 r	−4 r
June	205	−14	83	−17	122	3
July	216	−9	93	−10	123	1
August	215	−4	86	−14	129	10
September	217 r	−2 r	91 r	−4	126 r	2 r
October	231 r	−11 r	97	−14	134 r	3 r
November	224 r	−11 r	88	−5	136 r	−6 r
December	224	−7	95	−11	129	4
1974 July-Sept.	648	−15	270	−28	378	13
Oct.-Dec.	679	−29	280	−30	399	1
Percentage increase	5		4		6	
Debt outstanding at 31 December 1974 (unadjusted)	—	2,330	—	1,478	—	852

† Direct business only: ie excluding agreements block discounted with finance houses by retailers.

‡ Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other instalment credit retailers'. For further definitions see footnote to Table 2.

TABLE 2 Retailers' instalment credit sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1966 = 100

	Total†	Durable goods shops	Department stores	Other instalment credit retailers‡
H.P. and other instalment credit sales in 1966 §				
£ million	(862)	(327)	(46)	(489)
1970	121	112	119	128
1971	134	138	138	131
1972	158	162	157	155
1973	176	165	181	183
1974	184	132	193	217
1973 1st quater	181	176	184	184
2nd quarter	170	161	175	176
3rd quarter	175	162	181	182
4th quarter	179	163	185	190
1974 1st quarter	171	118 r	176 r	207 r
2nd quarter	178 r	126 r	183 r	212
3rd quarter	188 r	134 r	208 r	222 r
4th quarter	198	152	211	228
1974 April	177 r	126 r	170 r	213 r
May	175 r	123 r	187 r	209
June*	181 r	129 r	191 r	216 r
July	184 r	132 r	202 r	217
August	192 r	134 r	207 r	229 r
September*	188 r	137 r	213 r	219
October	199 r	146 r	216 r	233
November	202 r	156 r	214 r	233 r
December*	193	154	202	218
1974 July-Sept. av.	188	134	208	222
Oct.-Dec. av.	198	152	211	228
Percentage increase	6	13	1	3

† Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other instalment credit retailers'.

‡ General stores (other than department stores), general mail order houses and co-operative societies' non-durable goods departments.

§ Excluding sales against checks issued by other organisations.

The monthly periods for retailers consist of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The period covered by December 1974 sales was the five weeks from 24 November 1974 to 28 December 1974. The corresponding period in 1973 was from 25 November 1973 to 29 December 1973.

ment to pensioners (which was paid, generally, towards the end of November). For food shops, in addition to the possible influence of these factors, the fall in sales reflects the effects of the bakers' strike, while the further decline in sales by clothing and footwear shops is probably attributable to the comparatively mild weather which occurred towards the end of last year.

In the second half of 1974 the average volume of trade was 2½ per cent above the average level in the first half of 1974 when trade was relatively depressed. Of the components, sales by food shops were up by 2¾ per cent between the two halves of the year, probably mainly as a result of the increased pensions which were paid towards the end of July, while sales by durable goods shops, which had fallen back earlier in the year following the introduction in December 1973 of restrictions on credit, recovered and were up by 5 per cent. Sales by clothing and footwear shops, despite being adversely affected by the mild weather in the last quarter of the year, rose by 4 per cent between the half years, while sales by other non-food shops (which include department stores and mail-order businesses) showed an increase of 1 per cent. However, for each of these three non-food components, average sales in the second half of 1974 were little different from the average levels for 1973 as a whole.

In 1974, the volume of retail sales was ¾ per cent below the level in 1973, a small rise in sales by food shops only partially off-setting a decline in sales by non-food shops (principally in durable goods shops).

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the value of total retail sales in December shows a rise of 17 per cent compared with December of last year. For 1974 as a whole the value of sales was 15½ per cent above the level in 1973.

Hire purchase and other instalment credit business in December 1974

New instalment credit advanced by finance houses and retailers amounted to £224 million in December (in seasonally adjusted terms) bringing the total for the fourth quarter of 1974 to £679 million, 5 per cent more than in the third quarter. In the year as a whole, £2,517 million was advanced in instalment credit agreements, 12 per cent less than in 1973. Finance houses advanced £95 million in December 1974 and £280 million in the fourth quarter, 4 per cent more than in the third quarter. Overall in 1974 finance house lending was 29 per cent less than in 1973. Retailers' lending totalled £129 million in December and £399 million in the fourth quarter, 6 per cent more than in the third quarter. In 1974 as a whole retailers advanced £1,480 million, 4 per cent more than in 1973.

The value of retailers' average weekly sales on instalment credit agreements was slightly less in December than in other recent months. However, in the fourth quarter as a whole average weekly sales were 6 per cent more than in the third quarter. In the year 1974 credit sales were 5 per cent more on average than in 1973. Durable goods shops sales increased by 13 per cent between the third and fourth quarters of 1974 but in the year as a whole their sales were 20 per cent less than in 1973. Department stores sales increased by 1 per cent on average between the third and fourth quarters and by 7 per cent in 1974 compared with 1973. Other instalment credit retailers (mainly mail-order businesses) increased their sales by 3 per cent between the third and fourth quarters and by 19 per cent on average in 1974 compared with 1973. Debt outstanding on instalment credit agreements with retailers and finance houses decreased by £7 million in December bringing the total fall in the fourth quarter to £29 million compared with a fall of £15 million in the third quarter. Debt to finance houses fell by a further £11 million in December bringing the fourth quarter decrease to £30 million, following a drop of £28 million in the third quarter. In 1974 debt owing to finance houses fell by £160 million. The debt outstanding to retailers increased by £4 million in December following a decrease in November, thus bringing the total increase in the fourth quarter to £1 million

compared with an increase of £13 million in the third quarter. In the last year as a whole debt to retailers increased by £5 million. At the end of December 1974 the total debt outstanding to finance houses and retailers was £2,330 million (*not* seasonally adjusted), a fall of £155 million (6 per cent) compared with the end of the previous year.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1974 have been revised to bring the totals for the year into line with the totals of the unadjusted figures. Some revision, either upward or downward, usually has to be made at the end of the year, because the seasonally adjusted figures do not as a rule add up precisely to the recorded totals.

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PQ 423 Textile finishing for third quarter 1974
PQ 433 Fur for third quarter 1974
PQ 444 Overalls and men's shirts, underwear, etc., for second quarter 1974
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PQ 473 Bedding and soft furnishings for third quarter 1974
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Cinema admissions and takings in November 1974

During November, counted as a four week period, the weekly average of admissions to cinemas in Great Britain was 2.65 million and the weekly average of gross box office takings, including VAT, was £1.34 million. The comparable figures for November 1973 were 2.42 and £1.06 million, respectively.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 31 January 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Movietone News 2382	BR/E 37812/2/2/80	8	31 January	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
No Gold For A Dead Diver	EC 37924/2/2/80	78	30 January	Variety Film Distributors Ltd.	Rapid-Film GmbH, Munich
			FOREIGN		
The Towering Inferno	F 37920	165	30 January	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	20th-Century Fox Film Corporation, California
The Corruption Of Chris Hiller	F 37921	112	30 January	Target International Pictures Ltd.	Xavier de Armet, Barcelona
Legacy Of Blood	F 37922	90	30 January	Target International Pictures Ltd.	Heritage Enterprises Incorporated, New York
The Mean Machine	F 37923	122	30 January	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Albert S. Ruddy Productions Incorporated, California
Aquarium	F 37892	10	30 January	Connoisseur Films Ltd.	Sofia Studios, Bulgaria
The Island	F 37925	10	30 January	Connoisseur Films Ltd.	Flyuzmultfilm, Moscow
De Facto	F 37926	8	30 January	Connoisseur Films Ltd.	Sofia Studios, Bulgaria

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Film registrations in 1974

Film registration statistics, compiled under Film Acts 1960 to 1970, show that the number of British, Community (EEC) and foreign films registered during 1974 was 670, compared with 656 in 1973. In both years the total figures included 104 British newsreels.

The number of 'long' films (over 72 minutes playing time) rose from 380 in 1973 to 402. A total of 78 British 'long' films were registered, two less than in 1973, but registrations of Community 'long' films showed an increase of 14 over the previous year.

TABLE 1 Summary of registrations in year ended 31 December 1974

(Corresponding 1973 figures in brackets)

	Number of films				Registered playing time (minutes)			
	British				British			
Playing time	Quota	Non-quota	Community	Foreign	Quota	Non-quota	Community	Foreign
Over 72 minutes	78 (a) (80)	— (—)	94 (80)	230 (220)	7,451 (7,806)	— (—)	9,123 (7,516)	21,760 (21,436)
33½ to 72 minutes	13 (9)	1 (4)	9 (7)	13 (10)	625 (462)	51 (180)	624 (474)	808 (677)
Under 33½ minutes	72 (b) (77)	— (5)	4 (1)	52 (59)	1,423 (1,456)	— (95)	58 (11)	598 (756)
Newsreels	104 (104)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	777 (781)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)

(a) Includes three films made under the British-French co-production agreement, 12 films from Hong Kong, six from Australia, two from Canada and one joint UK/Hong Kong production.
(b) Includes one UK film, three from Australia and one from Canada, all of which were made by Government departments.

TABLE 2 Countries of origin of foreign and community films registered

	Playing time Over 72 minutes		33½ – 72 minutes		Under 33½ – minutes	
Countries of origin	Foreign	Community	Foreign	Community	Foreign	Community
Argentina	1	–	–	–	–	–
Belgium	–	–	–	1	–	–
Czechoslovakia	1	–	–	–	–	–
Denmark	1	–	–	–	–	–
France	10	19	1	2	1	2
Germany (Federal Republic)	4	19	2	5	–	–
Greece	4	–	–	–	–	–
Hong Kong	4	–	–	–	–	–
Hungary	1	–	–	–	16	–
Israel	2	–	–	–	–	–
Italy	19	17	–	–	–	–
Japan	3	–	–	–	–	–
Liechtenstein	1	–	–	–	–	–
Mexico	4	–	–	–	–	–
Netherlands	–	1	–	–	–	2
Netherlands Antilles	1	–	–	–	–	–
Poland	–	–	–	–	2	–
Singapore	–	–	–	–	8	–
South Africa	1	–	–	–	1	–
Spain	8	–	–	–	–	–
Sweden	5	–	–	–	–	–
Switzerland	3	–	1	–	–	–
Taiwan-Republic of China	1	–	–	–	–	–
USA	131	–	7	–	14	–
USSR	2	–	–	–	1	–
JOINT PRODUCTIONS:						
France/Germany (Federal Republic)	–	2	–	–	–	–
France/Algeria	–	1	–	–	–	–
France/Italy	–	21	–	–	–	–
UK/Germany (Federal Republic)	–	1	–	–	–	–
France/Spain	1	–	–	–	–	–
France/Czechoslovakia	–	–	–	1	–	–
Germany (Federal Republic)/USA	1	–	–	–	–	–
Italy/Spain	1	4	–	–	–	–
Italy/Monaco	–	1	–	–	–	–
UK/Italy/Spain	1	–	–	–	–	–
France/Germany (Federal Republic)/Italy	–	6	–	–	–	–
France/Italy/Monaco	–	1	–	–	–	–
France/Italy/Spain	1	1	–	–	–	–
Others	18*	–	2ø	–	9†	–
Totals	230	94	13	9	52	4

* Includes seven films made by UK companies and 11 by Commonwealth companies; application was not made for British registration.
ø Films made by UK companies; application not made for British registration.
† Includes eight films made by UK companies and one by a Commonwealth company; application was not made for British registration.

Volume of insurance business

The table below, which is to be reproduced in the Insurance Business Annual Report 1974, to be published later in the year, shows the principal items of aggregate business undertaken by insurers authorised under the Insurance Companies Acts 1958/74 as shown in returns made in accordance with the Insurance Companies (Accounts and Forms) Regulations 1968 (SI 1968 No. 1408) in respect of accounting years ended between 1 January and 31 December 1973; as not all insurers have a calendar financial year the aggregate figures do not of course give a precise indication of the business done in 1973. The table also shows the business done by Lloyd's underwriters in 1973 as shown by the statement of business deposited by the Committee of Lloyd's.

ALL FIGURES IN £ MILLION

Insurers incorporated in the United Kingdom

Total assets	24,880
Income from investments	1,496

Premiums (net of refunds, rebates and premiums for reinsurance ceded)

	In UK	Overseas	Not distinguishable	Total world-wide
Long-term business	2,651	290	—	2,941
General business	1,430	1,329	55	2,814

	LIAB	MAT	MV	PL	PA	PROP	Treaty reinsurance
General business comprised	345	315	872	146	73	767	296

CLAIMS PAID

Long-term paid and admitted (net of reinsurance recoveries)	1,673
General (net of salvage reinsurance and other recoveries)	1,510

	LIAB	MAT	MV	PL	PA	PROP	Treaty reinsurance
General claims comprised	177	233	509	68	40	326	157

Increase in provision for claim outstanding (sch. 2 Part III Line 18 minus Line 3)	305

	LIAB	MAT	MV	PL	PA	PROP	Treaty reinsurance
Comprising	108	4	96	13	2	49	33

Insurers incorporated overseas:

	Life	General	Total
Premiums in United Kingdom (net of refunds, rebates and premiums for reinsurance ceded)	114	143	257

LLOYD'S UNDERWRITERS – 1973 ACCOUNT

	Life	UK motor	MAT	Other	Total world-wide
Premiums (less brokerage, discount, commission, returns and reinsurance)	1	71	467	453	992
Claims (less reinsurance recoveries)	1	46	387	396	830

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	30 May 1974
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	23 Jan. 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	12 Dec. 1974
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	9 Jan. 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	16 Jan. 1975
Census of production	19 Dec. 1974
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	This week
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	28 Nov. 1974
Liquidity	12 Dec. 1974
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	23 Jan. 1975
N. Ireland (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
Energy trends (M)	9 Jan. 1975
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	23 Jan. 1975
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	16 Jan. 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	This week
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registrations of films (A)	This week
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	5 Sept. 1974
household consumption (Q)	16 Jan. 1975
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	9 Jan. 1975
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	16 Jan. 1975
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Hire-purchase business (M)	This week
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	30 Jan. 1975
N. Ireland index (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Wales index (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	30 Jan. 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	13 June 1974
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	23 Jan. 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	28 Nov. 1974
production (M)	2 Jan. 1975
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	28 Nov. 1974
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
estimated figures (M)	16 Jan. 1975
motor trade turnover (Q)	21 Nov. 1974
Office development permits (Q)	31 Oct. 1974
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	27 June 1974
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	30 Jan. 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	23 Jan. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	16 Jan. 1975
Retail prices index (M)	23 Jan. 1975
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	This week
provisional figures (M)	16 Jan. 1975
sales, N. Ireland (M)	16 Jan. 1975
stocks (M)	19 Dec. 1974
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	27 June 1974
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	26 Dec. 1974
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' (Q)	9 Jan. 1975
retail (M)	19 Dec. 1974
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	21 Nov. 1974
carpet sales (M)	30 Jan. 1975
cotton industry production (M)	16 Jan. 1975
hosiery production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	16 Jan. 1975
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	30 Jan. 1975
wool exports (Q)	12 Dec. 1974
wool output (M)	16 Jan. 1975
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	7 Nov. 1974
international passenger survey (A)	9 Jan. 1975
overseas travel and tourism (A)	21 Feb. 1974
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	23 Jan. 1975

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	2 Jan. 1975
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	23 Jan. 1975
ECGD local offices	23 Jan. 1975
Guide to Departments	5 Dec. 1974
Official Receivers' offices	This week
Programme of trade promotions	16 Jan. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	30 Jan. 1975

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